



University of New Mexico Staff Council 2026 Resolution #3

Name: Ad Hoc Safety and Communication Committee Establishment

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Adopted by Staff Council On: Tuesday, February 17, 2026

1. WHEREAS, on July 25, 2025 and July 28, 2025, the University of New Mexico experienced tragic events that resulted in campus lockdowns and raised critical concerns regarding the safety, security, and welfare of UNM staff and the broader university community; and
2. WHEREAS, the University of New Mexico Staff Council has a responsibility to represent staff interests and to seek transparency and accountability in matters affecting staff safety and wellbeing; and
3. WHEREAS, the Staff Council seeks to better understand the actions taken, decision-making processes, communications, and lessons learned in connection with campus safety concerns to better advocate for staff safety;
4. WHEREAS, the Staff Council Government Relations Committee has identified staff safety as a priority to lobby for at the NM State Legislative Session in 2026;
5. THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Staff Council create an *ad hoc* committee, called the Safety and Communication Committee, which shall be tasked with addressing the following areas:
 - a. Schedule meetings with a minimum of one safety and communication authorities at UNM within 90 days to better understand the safety concerns of campus and how the Staff Council can partner in addressing these concerns, including but not limited to:
 - i. UNM Police
 - ii. Campus directors in charge of campus closures and delays
 - iii. Clery Coordinator
 - iv. Deputy Chief Compliance Officer & Title IX Coordinator
 - v. Director, Crisis Management and Preparedness Department
 - vi. Parking and Transportation Services;
 - b. Begin to gather emergency plans from all operational units across campus to evaluate consistency across campus, prioritizing departments with staff council involvement, within the first 120 days of establishment;

- c. Upon completion of the above, draft a resolution advocating for the safety of all UNM staff through improved communication from key UNM stakeholders to keep UNM staff properly informed in emergency situations.
6. RESOLVED, the Staff Council will create an ad hoc committee, called the Safety and Communication Committee,
7. RESOLVED that the newly formed *ad hoc* Safety and Communications Committee shall consist of a minimum of 5 members, including at least three Staff Council representatives from different precincts or grades, appointed by the Staff Council Speaker in consultation with the Executive Committee and approved by the Staff Council. Appointments shall be made at the next general business meeting. Membership should strive to include representation across campuses and departments.
8. RESOLVED that the Staff Council shall evaluate the committee's effectiveness and ongoing staff needs six months after its formation to determine its longevity and may recommend transitioning it to a standing committee. Unless extended by the Staff Council, the committee shall dissolve after 12 months or upon completion of its tasks.

Copies of this Resolution shall be sent to the UNM Board of Regents; Dr. Garnett Stokes, President; Teresa Costantinidis, Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration; Kevin Stevenson, Vice President for Human Resources; Dr. Barbara Rodríguez, Interim Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs; Dr. Mike Richards, Executive Vice President for HSC and CEO of the UNM Health System; Dr. Assata Zerai, Vice President for Equity and Inclusion; Ben Cloutier, Interim Executive Director of Strategic Communications; Dr. Valerie Romero-Leggott, Vice President and Executive Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer, HSC; Faculty Senate c/o Roberta Lavin, Faculty Senate President; and The Daily Lobo.

References:

[Government Relations Legislative Priorities Brochure FY 2027](#)