

For Use by Law Enforcement Standards & Training Council
Language Describing Criteria for Modernized Law Enforcement System
Performance

The language below was developed and worked on word by word with input and consensus from the statewide law enforcement leadership group of approximately 100 leaders convened by the Law Enforcement Academy and Indivisible SOS Santa Fe (represented by Rachel Feldman) in 2022. The language was included in the original SB 19 that defined the scope of the LECB, but was stripped out by the Judiciary Committee which thought it more appropriate to implementing regulation than statute. These criteria are not exhaustive, but were identified as critical to defining the scope of responsibility of the Standards and Training Council and the Certification Board.

The New Mexico Law Enforcement System, including standard setting, training, certification, oversight, and adjudication of misconduct shall be designed to produce law enforcement capacity that integrates all knowledge and skills necessary to ensure performance to the following criteria:

- Law enforcement officers will intervene effectively in high-risk and crisis situations to protect the officer and public safety, and to minimize liability.
- Officer use of force must be objectively reasonable under the totality of circumstances and, when feasible, is least restrictive and limited to protect the officer and public safety.
- Officers shall treat everyone with respect, regardless of racial, ethnic or cultural differences; physical or mental capacities; or appearance, language, or gender; and in a manner that avoids civil rights violations.
- Officers demonstrate attitudes of pride, professionalism and honor in protecting all persons and communities.
- Officers demonstrate courage to intervene in another officer's inappropriate conduct, regardless of rank.
- Officers shall be sensitive to collateral damage in the wake of trauma resulting from law enforcement interventions.
- Officers shall equitably enforce state laws and local ordinances.
- Officers shall collect and secure evidence, maintain case documentation and provide truthful testimony to support judicial processes.

Police agencies shall perform to the following additional criteria:

- The police agency shall attend to the wellness and behavioral health of its officers, including providing access to needed supportive services.
- The police agency will coordinate and cooperate with other community services.