



## **New Mexico D.R.E Committee Meeting Minutes**

March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

### **Call to order**

Charles Files called to order the meeting of the New Mexico D.R.E Committee Meeting at 0904 on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022 inside the Sandia Ballroom at the Marriott Uptown in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

### **I. Roll call**

#### **Conducted a roll call. The following D.R.E. Committee members were present:**

Micah Doering	Josh Montano
Joel Holt	Charles Files
Eden Flores	Fabian Fernandez
Candace Coulson	Eden Flores
Kevin Bruno	Judge (Ret.) Kevin Fitzwater
Michael Wells	

#### **The following D.R.E. Committee members were not present:**

Judge (Ret.) Tina Garcia	Brett Barnes
Gregory Gaudette	Carmelita Chavez
Eva Fontanez	

#### **The following guests were present:**

Troy Brackeen	Tim McCarson
Raymond Torres	Kimberly Wildharber
Janell Files	

### **II. Approval of Minutes of September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Meeting:**

*Motion Made to Approve:* Micah Doering *Seconded:* Joel Holt

### **III. Discussion Making Ex-Officio Members Voting Members:**

As the bylaws stand only the committee members who hold a DRE or DRE Instructor certification have voting privileges. We would like the board to consider making all positions within the committee a voting position with the exception of the judicial seats. The Committee is looking for another Defense Attorney. Anyone can make a recommendation which will be

discussed at the next meeting.

***Motion made to make all Committee seats a voting position with the exception of judicial Motion Made to Approve: Micah Doering Seconded: Joel Holt***

#### **IV. Committee Seats:**

The following DREs have been recommended to fill the following vacancies:  
DRE Central Region Alternate: Officer Zachary Herbst (Albuquerque PD)  
DRE Northern Region: Sergeant Michael Wells (Bloomfield PD)  
DRE Northern Region Alternate: Corporal Anthony Sanchez (San Juan County SO)  
Southern Region Alternate- Deferred to Fabian Fernandez who does not have a recommendation at this time.

***Motion Made to Approve: Joel Holt Seconded: Fabian Fernandez***

#### **V. Recognition:**

Officer Raymond Torres (Los Lunas P.D.) was voted by the D.R.E. Committee as the 2021 D.R.E. of the Year. He was presented with a plaque and a recognition was read by Charles Files.

#### **VI. Lasworth Impact on Traffic Safety:**

Charles Files explained the importance of reintroducing HGN into the courtroom. Currently, Officers may not conduct a properly executed HGN because it will not be introduced into court. Officers' observations should be considered the most important piece of the case. A Sub-Committee was formed to discuss the "right case". This Sub-Committee identified key role players and established Dr. Karl Citek as their medical professional. This will take collaboration on many areas like the Metro Courts and Regional Coordinators. Our next step is to look out for a case that contains the discussed criteria.

#### **VII. 2022 D.R.E. School:**

Plan to continue with D.R.E. School as planned. Roster proposed to the Committee of 25 qualified candidates, we only have space for 24. Classroom to be held in Albuquerque, the Regional Metro Traffic Center (old National Guard Building on Wyoming) based on locations of the majority of students and instructors. Field Certifications scheduled for two trips in Mesa, Arizona. Trip #1 is scheduled for April 27<sup>th</sup>-May 1<sup>st</sup>; Trip #2 is scheduled for May 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Confirmations will go out to the students this (March 7<sup>th</sup>) afternoon. After consideration of potential candidates one candidate will be removed from the list, C-Jay Smith.

The roster was proposed to Committee, Charles asked if there was a motion to approve.

***Motion Made to Approve: Joel Holt Seconded: Micah Doering***

### **VIII. New Mexico D.R.E. Instructor School Follow-Up:**

At the last meeting, we discussed hosting our own D.R.E. instructor school. To make this logistically possible, we would need participation from other States. Charles reported that he solicited State Coordinators nationwide and did not receive adequate interest. We will plan to continue with the solicitation of a New Mexico held D.R.E Instructor school at upcoming conferences and also send out reminders around June. This would give other agencies the ability to plan further in the future to send their D.R.E's to our school. Potential school date would be January 9th-13th, 2023.

Our two selected students have completed D.R.E. Instructor training out of state. The two candidates only require field certifications to complete their instructor certification. Lt. Ready, Jacquelynn will be going with trip #2 and Sgt. Brackeen will be going with trip #1 to be observed for the final step to become an Instructor. They will need to be observed by a D.R.E Instructor while they observe a D.R.E candidate.

### **IX. New Mexico D.R.E. Instructors Teaching SFST Curriculum:**

Discussion about the NMDPS rule and oversight for SFST instructors. D.R.E. instructors who are not SFST instructors can not teach SFST. Currently, there are two D.R.E. instructors who are not certified as SFST instructors. In conjunction with SFST, it was considered that we would announce that all potential D.R.E's would obtain their SFST certification within one year of obtaining their D.R.E qualification.

### **X. N.M.D.R.E. Program Update:**

We are currently at 75 D.R.E's with a potential to reach 100 this year. 23 are expiring and will need to attend one of our refresher courses. Dates for this year are as follows: April 15th (Last day of D.R.E school), June 3, 2023 (Alb. Marriott), the last one is TBD for anyone that could not attend the two previous ones. We will also be accepting applications for the 2023 D.R.E Instructor beginning on the 1st of August and closing on the 31st of August. Voting on the potential candidate list will take place at our next meeting.

### **XI. N.M.D.R.E. Program Status Update:**

10 ARIDE classes have been completed so far with 161 Officers trained. We will continue training to complete the other six classes that remain for FY21.

The annual calendar worked well for 2022. Charles will start identifying areas and reaching out to establish the 2023 calendar before the next meeting.

### **XII. National Updates.:**

NHTSA is in the final phases of an online ARIDE refresher (4 hours) which should come out by the end of the year. SFST/ARIDE and DRE curriculum updates are in the final phases of editing and should come out later this year. The antiquated SFST dry-lab videos were replaced and new videos were filmed in September 2021. They are in the final editing phases. They should be released with the new curriculum.

**XII. Updates/Concerns/Suggestions for Improvement:**

A. DRE/DRE Instructors: None

B. NMDOT: None

C. TSRPs: None

D. ADA: None

E. US Attorney: None

F. Judicial: None

G. Defense: None (Not Present)

H. SWTC: Scheduled Training for June in Las Cruces with NMDRE.

**XIII. Date//Location of Next Meeting:** Tentative date September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 in Albuquerque

**XIV. \*\* Adjourned \*\***

Meeting end time 11:31

*Motion to Adjourn:* Micha Doering *Seconded:* Michael Wells

Minutes submitted by: Janell Files, BRV Consulting

Minutes approved by: <Name> \*Voting item at next committee meeting