

Identification Cards and Badges

1. Objective/Purpose

To define the issuance, re-issuance, and wearing of identification cards and badges.

2. Scope:

The policy applies to all NMMSAR Unit members and addresses the issuance and proper use of State-SAR issued identification cards and Unit-issued badges.

3. Policy:

Identification Cards

All New Mexico certified responders are provided with credentials. To receive an ID card you must be certified under a DPS program (*i.e. Field Certification, Section Chief, Field Coordinator, etc.*) Request your ID card by sending an email to the R.O. with the subject line "Search & Rescue ID Request". The body of the email must include your name, mailing address, phone number and indicate if the requestor is a minor.

An ID style photo must also be attached to the email. An ID style photo is a color head shot against a white background, no hat, no sunglasses, no glamour or action shots. Similar to a photo on a driver's license.

Contact info for the RO is found here: <https://www.sp.nm.gov/search-and-rescue/>

Badges

After a new member has completed the one-year probationary period and has successfully met the requirements for regular membership as outlined in the Unit By-Laws and Policy, they will be issued a badge, as badge availability permits. There are a limited number of badges, so a new regular member may have to wait for a badge until one becomes available. The badge should always be worn as part of the event uniform. It is recommended that the badge not be worn during a search.

As badge availability permits, probationary, auxiliary, and legacy members who participate in special activities may be issued a badge on an event-by-event basis. These specially issued badges will be turned in as soon as practical at the end of the event.

No member shall use the badge for any personal gain. Members understand that wearing the badge does not give the individual Law Enforcement authority.

Return of Identification Cards and Badges

Identification cards should be returned to DPS. When a member leaves the Unit, they must surrender their badge, along with other Unit equipment.

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