



The New Mexico Department of Veterans Services

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

Judy M. Griego
Cabinet Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Ray Seva
Public Information Officer
ray.seva@state.nm.us
(505) 827-6352

March 23, 2020

The New Mexico Department of Veterans Services Temporarily Suspends “In-Person” Office Assistance; Alters Interment Procedures at the Ft. Stanton & Gallup Cemeteries

VSO’s to Offer Assistance by Phone, Email, or Videoconference

(SANTA FE)— Effective March 24, all field offices of the New Mexico Department of Veterans Services (DVS) will temporarily postpone in-person office visits by veterans-- and will instead provide veterans’ benefits assistance via telephone, video conference, or e-mail. All previously-scheduled in-office visits will be rescheduled.

The move is to comply with Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham’s statewide directive this afternoon directing state agencies to further help minimize the spread of the COVID-19/Novel Coronavirus.

Veterans or widows of veterans can work with DVS Veterans Service Officers (VSO’s) by:

- Leaving a message on a VSO's "work" phone number.
 - VSO's regularly check their office phones for messages.
- Contacting a VSO on his/her mobile phoneVia e-mail
- Via video confencing.

Below is the contact information for DVS VSO's. Assistance will be provided on a first-call, first-served basis. Livestream video conferencing can be arraged by contacting the VSO.

Alamogordo (VSO: Larry Weatherwax)

Office: (575) 437-4635

Mobile: (575) 491-3127

Larry.weatherwax@state.nm.us

Albuquerque #1 (Karen Abeyta)

Office: (505) 346-3986

Mobile: (505) 429-0856

Karen.abeyta@state.nm.us

Albuquerque #2 (Gordon Schei)

Office: (505) 346-4810

Mobile: *(same as office number)*

gordon.schei@state.nm.us

Carlsbad (Dagmar Youngberg)

Office: (575) 885-4939

Mobile: (505) 988-5900

Dagmar.youngberg@state.nm.us

Clovis (Matt Barela)

Office: (575) 762-6185

Mobile: (575) 825-9602

matthew.barela@state.nm.us

Farmington (Beverly Charley)

Office: (505) 327-2861

Mobile: *(same as office number)*

Beverly.charley@state.nm.us

Hobbs (Dalton Boyd)

Office: (575) 397-5290
Mobile: (575) 241-0714
Dalton.boyd@state.nm.us

Las Cruces #1 (George Vargas)

Office: (575) 524-6124
Mobile: (575) 520-2634
George.vargas@state.nm.us

Las Cruces #2 (Rosa Bycenski)

Office: (575) 524-6220
Mobile: (575) 870-1349
Rosa.bycenski@state.nm.us

Las Cruces #3 (Craig Chumley)

Office: (575) 524-6220 or
6124
Mobile: *(same as office number)*
Craig.chumley@state.nm.us

**Las Vegas, NM (Martin
Màrquez)**

Office: (505) 454-0068
Mobile: (575) 520-5079
martinM.marquez@state.nm.us

**Roswell (Danielle
Thompson)**

Office: (575) 624-6086
Mobile: (575) 416-2284
Danielle.thompson@state.nm.us

Ft. Stanton & Gallup State Veterans Cemeteries

Committal/funeral memorial services and the rendering of military funeral honors--whether by active military personnel or volunteer organizations--are also temporarily postponed until further notice at the DVS-managed Ft Stanton and Gallup State Veterans Cemeteries.

In compliance with the Governor's public health order this afternoon, Immediate family gatherings will be limited to five individuals at interments. Cemetery staff will work with families to schedule a full/"normal" committal or memorial service at a later date. For more information at the cemeteries:

Ft. Stanton State Veterans Cemetery

David Flores/Supervisor

(505) 383-4381

David.flores@state.nm.us

Gallup State Veterans Cemetery

Gilbert Lopez/Supervisor

(575) 905-9771

Gilbert.lopez@state.nm.us

###