

Mental Health Response Advisory Committee (MHRAC)

Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2026
Via Zoom

Board Members/Proxy in Attendance

Ellen Braden	Health, Housing, Homelessness
Ryan Delaware	New Mexico Solutions
Chief E. Jaramillo/Chief C. Ortiz	Albuquerque Fire Department
Commander Bartlett/D/Commander. McElroy	APD Crisis Intervention Division
Dr. David Ley	New Mexico Solutions
Dr. Duranceaux	APD Behavioral Science Section
Scott Harmon	APD Crisis Intervention Division

Board Members Absent

Bernice Varela	Paula Burton
Mariela Ruiz-Angel	Rachel Biggs
Jane Garland	Mary Perez
Robert Salazar	Wendy Linebrink-Allison
Dr. Wayne Lindstrom	Barbara Berry

Introduction to MHRAC

The Mental Health Response Advisory Committee (MHRAC) was created by the Court-Approved Settlement Agreement (CASA). We've been around since day one and focus on three areas: resources, and resources being available to access different things within the city that APD and first responders can use as they impact homelessness and mental health issues. We are also involved in training and policy; training is one area where we have had a tremendous impact, particularly on the training that is offered. Policies are one of those things where the MHRAC is involved with assisting in writing, approving, and recommending policy as it relates to the narrow focus; we think narrow, but sometimes it gets pretty wide-focused on how law enforcement interacts with those experiencing homelessness and those experiencing a mental health crisis.

Attendance of Board Members

Seven board members were in attendance; ten were absent.

Welcome First-Time Guests

Greer Stanley, Chief Deputy, District Attorney's Office
Sean Beherec, Law Offices of Public Defender
Tammy Parisotto, Data Analyst, Albuquerque Police Department
Jon Paul "JP" Hamilton, Psychiatrist, University of New Mexico at MDC

Approval of Meeting Minutes

1st Motion –

2nd Motion –

The meeting lacked a quorum, preventing official votes on the minutes from the January MHRAC meeting.

Public Comment

- Sgt. Tinney - APD cannot access certificates for evaluation from IHS due to broken links in automated emails, preventing them from serving clients.
- Dr. David Ley - New Mexico Solutions will task the New Mexico Solutions tribal liaison with investigating the issue.
- Ryan Delaware - will contact the Public Defender's and DA's offices to discuss a potential future presentation for MHRAC.

New Member Nomination

- The meeting lacked a quorum, preventing official votes on a new member nomination.
- Commander Gerard Bartlett resigned from MHRAC due to retirement, creating a vacancy. APD will nominate a replacement next month. APD will nominate a replacement next month.
- Barbara Berry will remain on the member roster. The bylaws allow removal after three consecutive absences; Berry has missed one.

Albuquerque Community Safety (ACS) Update

None

Gateway Center and Health, Housing, & Homelessness Update, Ellen Braden

- The overflow shelter serves 50–60 people nightly.
- Decommissioning is planned for the coming weeks, contingent on weather and Gateway West bed availability.
- All programs are operational except for Young Adult, which will launch soon.

APD, CIU, and BSS Update, Major Nelson, Cmdr. Bartlett, & Sgt. Tinney

- New Downtown Initiative: APD's CIU is now deployed downtown several days a week to address behavioral health issues and homelessness, using their expertise for targeted enforcement.
- ECIT training certification/recertification is monthly.
- The 40-hour CIT course is pending state approval.
- Dr. J.P. Hamilton (UNM) was recognized for providing critical support to high-risk individuals who would otherwise "fall through the cracks."
- Dr. Duranceaux is attending a legislative session in Santa Fe to advocate for PTSD/trauma workers' comp for law enforcement.
- The RFP for a new contract is reportedly finalized.

Training & InfoShare Subcommittee

- The committee last met in January, and we reviewed APD's use of force policy and discussed the AOT (Assisted Outpatient Treatment) project. Next sub-committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 23, 2026.

MHRAC Final Discussion

- Dr. David Ley – Will follow up with the mayor's office regarding the lead staff person for the ordinance.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 pm.

The next MHRAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 17, 2026

- The APD CIU Annual Data Book, Dr. Amalie McKee
- Update on the MHRAC Ordinance by Dr. David Ley

Unedited transcript of this MHRAC meeting is available upon request; email bvigil-gallegos@cabq.gov.