

# **Mental Health Response Advisory Committee (MHRAC)**

Meeting Minutes

October 21, 2025

Via Zoom

## **Board Members/Proxy in Attendance**

Ryan Delaware

MHRAC Co-Chair

Ellen Braden

Health, Housing, Homelessness

Mary Perez

UNM Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences

Cmdr. Gerard Bartlett

APD Crisis Intervention Division

Chief E. Jaramillo/Chief C. Ortiz

Albuquerque Fire Department

Dr. Nicole Duranceaux

APD Behavioral Sciences Section

Bernice Varela

Crossroads for Women

Robert Salazar

Peer Support

Coty Maxwell

APD Crisis Intervention Division

Dr. David Ley

NM Solutions

Dr. Wayne Lindstrom

Bernalillo County Behavioral Health

Rachel Biggs

Albuquerque Healthcare for the Homeless

## **Board Members Absent**

Jane Garland

Paula Burton

Mariela Ruiz-Angel

Wendy Linebrink-Allison

## **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**

Roll call was not taken for this meeting

## **Welcome First-Time Guests**

Brian Calt – New detective with the Crisis Intervention Division

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

1<sup>st</sup> Motion – David Ley

2<sup>nd</sup> Motion – Mary Perez

All the MHRAC board members approved the minutes from the September 2025 meeting.

### **Public Comment**

None

### **New Member Nomination (If any)**

Scott Harmon, Detective for the Crisis Intervention Unit Coordinator, was nominated and will be replacing board member Coty Maxwell, Detective for the Crisis Intervention Unit Follow-Up Team, whose term end date is October 21, 2025.

1<sup>st</sup> Motion - Sgt. Matt Tinney

2<sup>nd</sup> Motion - Dr. David Ley

MHRAC Board Members unanimously approved the nomination

### **CIU Semi-Annual Report, Dr. Peter Vielehr, APD Director of Analytics**

For a full view of the 44-page CIU Semi-Annual Report, go to:

<https://www.cabq.gov/mental-health-response-advisory-committee/mental-health-response-advisory-committee-documents>

## Response to Behavioral Health Incidents



January 1, 2025 – June 30, 2025

Crisis Intervention Section  
Albuquerque Police Department





## Types of Behavioral Health Response

1. ECIT Certified Field Services officers: These officers are assigned to Area Commands but have voluntarily received Enhanced Crisis Intervention Team (ECIT) training, which is an 8 hour course that must be refreshed every 2 years. All officers, receive 40 hours of Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training during their time in the academy and are instructed to request backup from an ECIT certified officer if they determine an encounter has a behavioral health component. As of September 18, 2025, 54%\* of Field Services officers are ECIT certified. \*excludes Police Officers Second Class (P2C) who are not eligible for ECIT training.

2. Crisis Intervention Unit (CIU) Detectives: Detectives specialized in crisis intervention who are assigned cases with individuals suffering from severe behavioral health issues and may pose a safety risk to themselves and others. They often conduct follow up with community members who are determined to have a behavioral health issue during an initial encounter with APD officers. They facilitate individuals receiving mental health intervention.

3. Civilian Clinicians: Licensed mental health professionals who work in conjunction with CIU detectives and the Mobile Crisis Team. They provide evaluations, complete general psychological assessments, assist in crisis intervention, conduct dangerousness assessments, and make referrals for individuals with behavioral health issues who interact with department personnel.

4. Mobile Crisis Team (MCT): MCT is a two-person unit comprised of one licensed mental health clinician paired with an ECIT trained officer. They respond to high-priority calls with a behavioral health component offering on scene evaluation and triage which often results in mental health transport. They do not conduct criminal investigations.

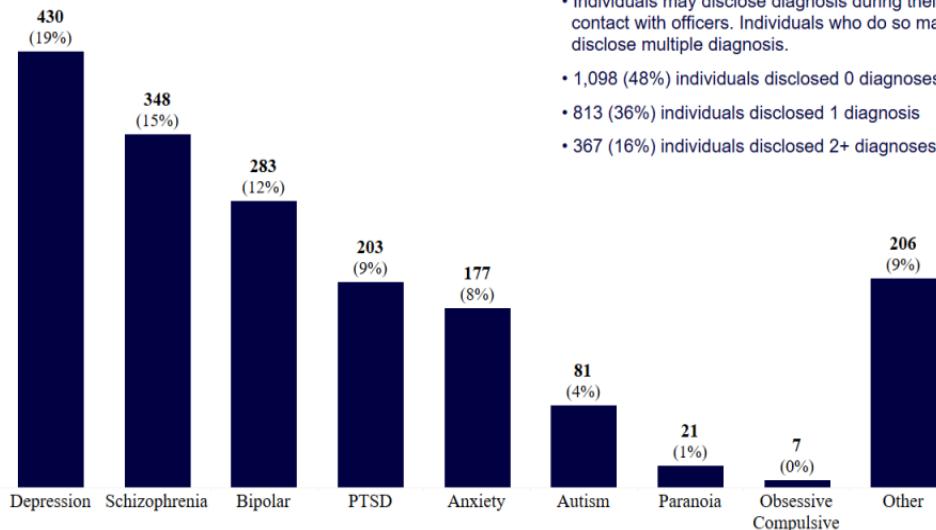
For more information about APD's crisis intervention specialists, please refer to SOP 1-37, available at <https://public.powerdms.com/COA/tree/documents/96>

Crisis Intervention Section – Albuquerque Police Department

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## Diagnosis



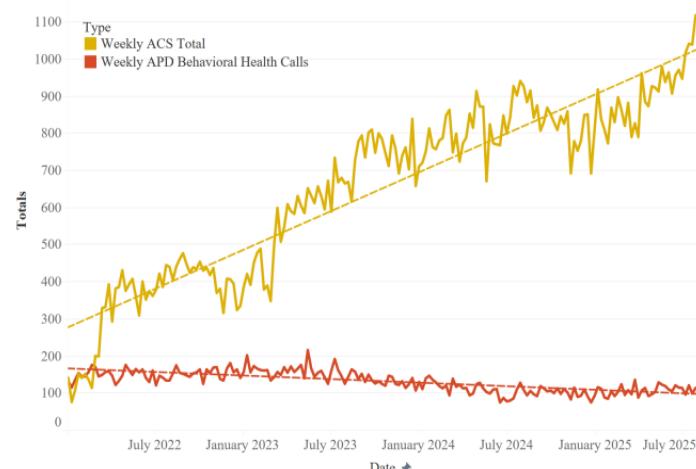
Crisis Intervention Section – Albuquerque Police Department

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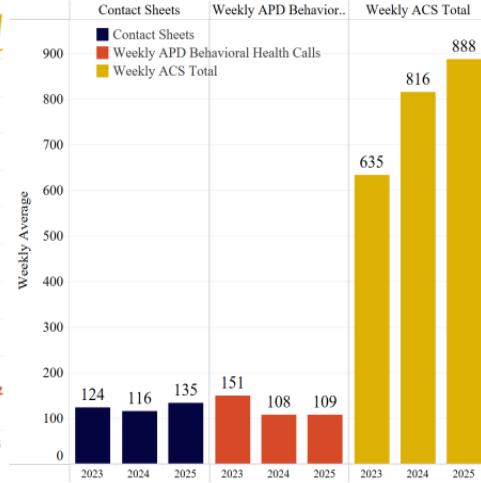


## Behavioral Health Call Volumes & Averages (ACS & APD)

### Total Call Volume



### Weekly Averages



*Timeframe: January 1, 2023 thru June 30, 2025. For the weekly averages, we include only January through June of each year.*

Crisis Intervention Section – Albuquerque Police Department

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### Data presented from the first six months of 2025, comparing it to 2024

- Call Volume Shift: APD's weekly average for BH calls dropped from 151 (2023) to 109 (2025), while ACS's volume increased from 835 to 888 calls/week.
- Contact Sheets: Total contacts rose 11% to 3,440.
- Location: Northeast Area Command accounted for 21% of contacts, with a high concentration north of I-40.
- Staffing: 67% of contacts had an ECIT-certified officer on scene.
- Transports: Voluntary and involuntary transports increased from 2024.
- Destinations: UNMH (49%) and Presbyterian (43%) received the most transports.
- Enforcement: Enforcement actions rose to 12% of contacts (from 10.4% in 2024).
- Rationale: Actions were driven by serious charges (e.g., domestic violence, felony assault) or warrants, where officer discretion is limited.
- Demographics:
- Race/Ethnicity: White non-Hispanic individuals were over-represented (42% of contacts vs. 38% of population); Hispanic/Latino individuals were under-represented (33.5% vs. 48%).
- Age: Average age was 36, with a range of 6–96.
- Repeat Contacts: 80% of individuals had only one contact, a decrease in repeat contacts from previous years.
- Encampments are not being included from 2024

### Use of Force Analysis:

- Incidence: Force was used in 0.7% of BH calls for service and 3% of all crisis contacts.
- Outcomes: 74 cases resulted in custody, 15 in involuntary transport.

- Force Types: 85 cases involved empty-hand control; 20 involved less-lethal methods (e.g., Taser, 40mm launcher).
- Injuries: 46 individuals and 53 officers were injured. Two individuals died in officer-involved shootings.
- Policy: 115 of 117 cases were ruled in-policy.

#### **Albuquerque Community Safety (ACS) Update, Walter Adams**

- Transports: 332 individuals were transported in September, primarily to shelters and hospitals.
- Staffing: A new academy is training 10 responders (7 BH, 2 outreach, 1 triage specialist).
- Event: 2nd Annual Trunk or Treat on Oct 31, 3–6 p.m., at ACS HQ. Consider donating candy.

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

- New Facilities: Men's and Women's Housing/Treatment Navigation Centers are open.
- Medical Sobering Center: Open and in use by ACS; AFR access is pending Medical Review Board approval.
- First Responder Receiving Area: Hours expanded to 4 p.m.–8 a.m. weekdays and 3 p.m.–9 a.m. weekends/holidays, effective Nov 9.

#### **APD, CIU, and BSS Update, Commander Bartlett, Sergeant Tinney, and Dr. Duranceaux**

- 465 referrals were reviewed in September, 85 were assigned. A lot of referrals came in from field officers who are looking to get people connected with services. 51 of those were sent out to the ACS Core Team, UNM, and other folks.
- CIU Operations: Actively involved in downtown visibility operations.
- Training:
- 75 National Guardsmen completed basic CIT.
- State-mandated "handling of crisis" training is pending approval for recruits and will be delivered to all dispatchers by year-end.
- BSS RFP: An RFP is open for a contract clinician to serve APD personnel. The deadline: October 30th, at 4 p.m.
- Detective Coty Maxwell is going TDY to the FBI's Homeland Security to learn more about threat assessments and how to better help in that area.
- Field Officer Speedy Apodaca will be TDY to the Crisis Intervention Division in December

#### **Training and Infoshare Sub-committee Update**

- The September meeting had to be cancelled due to low attendance.
- The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 27, 2025, and is open to the public.

#### **MHRAC Final Discussion**

None

The meeting was adjourned at 6:13 pm. Meeting Minutes taken by Mary Perez

The next MHRAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 18, 2025

Recording of this MHRAC meeting is available upon request; email [bvigil-gallegos@cabq.gov](mailto:bvigil-gallegos@cabq.gov).