



## Office of the Chancellor

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DATE: October 3, 2018

TO: All NMSU students, faculty and staff

FROM: Chancellor Dan Arvizu  
President John Floros

SUBJECT: Safe campus

*Dan E. Arvizu*  
*John D. Floros*

Over the past two weeks, three incidents of sexual assault against students have been reported on our campus. This message addresses those assaults and reaffirms that NMSU will not tolerate sexual assault on any of our campuses.

Being a member of the Aggie Community comes with privileges but also responsibilities. All members of the Aggie Community are expected to understand that:

- When it comes to sexual activity, “No” means “**NO!**” Consent should never be assumed or inferred, and consent can be withdrawn at any time.
- Use of threats, intimidation, or coercion automatically negate any previous consent.
- A person who is intoxicated, drugged, or incapable of giving knowing or informed consent is just that – incapable of giving consent. Any sexual act done to them while in such a condition is considered without consent.
- If you suspect that someone is in immediate physical danger or distress, contact police immediately by calling 911.
- Everyone is a bystander. If you believe a person is setting someone up for a sexual assault, help the victim get away, get others in the area to help, or call police. You can make a difference.
- If you or someone you know has been a victim of sexual assault, know that there are people who care and resources available to help. These include, but are not limited to:
  - NMSU Police Department Victim Services Unit (575) 646-3311
  - Counseling Center (575) 646-2731
  - La Piñon Sexual Assault Recovery Services of Southern NM (575) 526-3437
  - La Casa Inc. Domestic Violence Shelter (575) 526-2819
  - NMSU Office of Institutional Equity (575) 646-3635

NMSU has programs that increase awareness of sexual assault and the university community. As awareness has increased, so has reporting, sometimes by third-parties. This is an important step and we encourage everyone to continue reporting these cases.

Moving forward, NMSU is committed to the following steps:

- Creation of a task force to address sexual violence on campus.
- An increased emphasis on training for our NMSU residence hall staff regarding personal safety and wellness for all students.
- Development of a Comprehensive Strategic Safety Plan for Housing that will review all areas of security, including cameras, locks, lighting, landscaping and other issues.

Our goal is to eliminate sexual assault on our campuses and to ensure that NMSU has an environment is safe and secure for everyone. This is something we are all responsible for. We appreciate your help in these efforts.