# NEW MEXICO DRUG RECOGNITION EXPERT PROGRAM



**New Mexico**
**Drug Evaluation and Classification Program**
**Drug Recognition Expert Training**
# NEWS RELEASE

**Date**: August 13th, 2025                    **Prepared By**: Charles Files, New Mexico D.R.E. Program

## ALBUQUERQUE POLICE OFFICER RECOGNIZED AS NEW MEXICO'S DRUG RECOGNITION EXPERT OF THE YEAR 2024
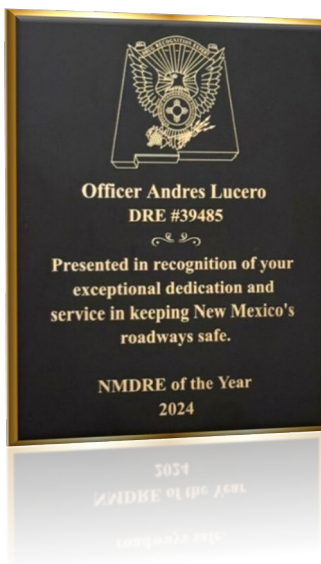
**Los Lunas, N.M.** – The New Mexico Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Program proudly recognizes **Officer Andres Lucero** of the **Albuquerque Police Department** as the 2024 New Mexico DRE of the Year.

Officer Lucero joined the Albuquerque Police Department's DWI Unit nearly two years ago and became a certified Drug Recognition Expert in May 2024. Since certification, he has completed more drug influence evaluations than any other DRE in New Mexico, conducting over 33% more evaluations than the next highest total recorded statewide.

This outstanding achievement, especially for a newly certified expert, underscores Officer Lucero's dedication to combating drug-impaired driving and enhancing public safety.

Known for his thoroughness, precision, and commitment to continuous improvement, Officer Lucero works closely with the District Attorney's Office to strengthen his courtroom testimony and ensure successful prosecution of impaired driving cases. Beyond his fieldwork, he actively educates cadets and fellow officers about the dangers of drug-impaired driving, helping to build capacity throughout New Mexico's law enforcement community.

Officer Lucero will be formally recognized at the upcoming New Mexico DRE Committee Meeting in Albuquerque on September 22nd. He has also been invited to attend the International Association of Chiefs of Police Conference on Impaired Driving and Traffic Safety in Chicago, Illinois, recognizing his leadership and impact in the field.





Questions regarding this release can be directed to:
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