Stephen A. Lopez

# Education

**University of Washington**

Master in Strategic Planning for Critical Infrastructures December 2008

**New Mexico State University**

Bachelor of Criminal Justice (with Honors Certificate) August 1988

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology (with Honors Certificate) August 1988

Emergency Medical Technician December 1988

Master of Arts in Government (emphasis in Public Affairs) 47 credits completed

Graduate Certificate in Public Health 6 credits completed

**FBI National Academy** – 205th Session June 2001

# Experience

## Doña Ana County

## *Assistant County Manager,* January 2025 – present.Responsible for planning, coordination, and oversight of assigned departments. Works with department heads and managers on strategic planning, budgeting, forecasting, and partnership opportunities. Handle special project development and implementation at the request of the County Manager. Currently assigned the Detention Center, Engineering & Roads, Fire Rescue, Office of Emergency Management, Public Information Office, and Utilities.

## *Manager, Office of Emergency Management*, January 2021 to January 2025. Responsible for planning, directing, and evaluating the staff of the Office of Emergency Management. Provide community-wide coordination and preparedness. Served as Interim Supervisor from January 2021 through June 2021, and then as the permanent Manager starting July 2021.

## *Interim County Manager*, May 2024 – October 2024. Responsible for directing and managing all County employees, carrying out directives from the Board of County Commissioners, and ensuring the strategic plan is implemented.

## New Mexico State University Criminal Justice Department

***College Assistant Professor***, Fall 2013, Fall 2014, Spring 2025. Develop and teach assigned courses. In 2013 and 2014, taught in-person course on criminal investigation (CJ 321 – Criminal Investigations and Intelligence). In 2025, taught online course in emergency management (CJUS 432 – Foundations of Emergency Management). Responsible for curriculum development and delivery, grading, and course records.

## New Mexico State University Police Department

***Chief of Police,*** April 2012 to January 2021. Responsible for planning, directing, and evaluating all aspects of integrated police, security, and emergency management for the University. Provide strategic planning, leadership, and direction within the Police Department. Advise central administration on safety, security, and incident management. Provide outreach to university community, as well as region, on safety related topics. Work with local, state, and federal partners to prepare, prevent, respond, and recover from manmade and natural incidents.

***Deputy Chief of Police***, December 2005 to April 2012. As part of Command Staff, responsible for policy development, emergency management, fiscal management, as well as oversight of Field Services Division, Emergency Dispatch Center, Records/Evidence Section, and Special Events/Crime Prevention. Serve in the place of the chief of police as necessary. Coordinate with other public safety agencies in formation and operation of task forces and work groups (including drug interdiction, communications, and terrorism), as well as disaster planning, exercises, and response.

***Commander – Specialized Services Division***, August 1997 through November 2005. Responsible for the oversight and operation of the Emergency Dispatch Center, the Parking Office, and the Records and Evidence Office. Responsible for oversight of $2 million departmental budget until 2004, and continued management of almost $1 million unit budgets. Have reorganized units to improve efficiency and responsiveness, reduce administrative costs, and add to services offered to customers.

***Training/Public Information Officer***, October 1993 to August 1997. Responsible for consolidation and coordination of all departmental training, community outreach programs and training, and public information and media relation activities for the department. Handled media events from simple news releases to an on-campus murder and a widely publicized student disappearance.

***Police Officer***, September 1988 to October 1993. Responsible for patrolling the campus and providing police services. Provided emergency response, crime scene processing, criminal investigation, traffic enforcement, and related duties. Served as first officer dedicated to Housing facilities, and helped hire and train replacements.

***Security Aid***, December 1987 to September 1988. Responsible for walking patrols of campus and securing of buildings and facilities.

## New Mexico State University Health Science Department (now Department of Public Health Sciences)

***College Instructor/College Assistant Professor***, August 2000 to May 2013, Fall 2014. Teach courses on illicit and prescription drugs of abuse (HLS 300 – Drugs and Behavior), both in-person and via distance education. Responsible for curriculum development and delivery, grading, and course records.

## Las Cruces Security

***Security Guard***, December 1987 to August 1988. Performed fixed post/location armed security duties at assigned contract locations, assisted with money escorts between client banks.

## KASK Radio and Television

***Audio Technician, Master Control Operator, Computer Generated Graphics, Associate Technical Director,*** May 1983 to October 1987. Responsible for shift operations of radio station, production of radio and television commercial audio tracks, operation of television master control, generation of computer graphics, and assisting in the technical direction of the nightly newscast.

# Honors and Awards

Award for Meritorious Conduct, NMSU Police Department, 2005.

Officer of the Year Award, Las Cruces Optimist Club, 1998.

Injury Prevention Award, Region II Emergency Medical Services, 1996.

Larry Fultz Memorial Award, Texas-New Mexico Association of College and University Police Departments, 1993.

Second Chance Award for Saving a Life, Region II Emergency Medical Services, 1990.

Honorable Mention, Officer of the Year for Doña Ana County, 1990.

First Place, National Substantive Law Knowledge Competition, American Criminal Justice Association, 1987.

Crimson Scholar, New Mexico State University, 1985, 1986.

# Professional Organizations

International Association of Emergency Managers. Member, 2008 – 2011, 2021 – present.

New Mexico Association of Emergency Management Professionals, 2021 – present.

New Mexico Public Health Association, 2020.

International Law Enforcement Educators and Trainers Association. Member, 2007 - 2020.

FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Association. Member, 2006 - 2020.

International Assoc. of Campus Law Enforcement Executives. Member, 2005 – 2020.

FBI National Academy Associates. Member, 2001 – 2020.

International Association of Chiefs of Police. Member, 1994 – present (life member).

National Parking Association. Member, 2004 – 2006.

International Association of Assembly Managers. Member, 2000 – 2001.

American Criminal Justice Association (). Member, secretary/treasurer, NMSU Chapter, 1985 – 1989.

National Criminal Justice Honor Society, NMSU Chapter. Member, 1987-1988.

# Committees, Community Involvement and Activities

Joint Terrorism Task Force – Executive Committee. Federal Bureau of Investigation, Albuquerque Office. Member, 2018 – 2020.

Communication Disorders Program Advisory Board at NMSU. Member 2011 – 2018.

Law Enforcement Advisory Council for Doña Ana Community College. Member 2010 - 2020.

Dean of Students Search Committee. Member, 2019.

Steering Committee for East Central University Safety Training and Technical Assistance for Administrators, Boards, and Law Enforcement Campus Programs, East Central University, OK. Member, 2017-2018.

Local Emergency Planning Committee. Member 2005 – 2017.

Dean of Students – Student Judicial Services Search Committee. Member, 2017.

Boy Scouts of America. Cubmaster and Den Leader, Yucca Council Pack 316, 2011 – 2014. Committee Treasurer, Assistant Scoutmaster, Troop 64, 2015-2016.

Ad hoc NMSU Free Speech Task Force. Member 2014-2015.

Ad hoc Committee on Guidelines for College Faculty Promotion. Member 2010 – 2012.

Chief of Fire and Emergency Services Search Committee. Member, 2012.

Dean of Students Search Committee. Member, 2012.

Dean of Students Search Committee. Member, 2011.

Dean of Students Search Committee. Member 2011.

Intelligent Transportation Systems Steering Committee, Las Cruces Metropolitan Planning Organization. Member 2003 - 2010.

Department of Higher Education Campus Safety Committee. Member, 2008-2010.

Transit Advisory Board, City of Las Cruces. Member 2004 – 2009.

Governor’s Task Force on Campus Safety. Member 2007-2008.

Director of Special Events Search Committee. Member.

Campus Safety Committee, New Mexico State University. Member 1994 – 1999.

NMSU Accreditation Self Study Subcommittee. Member, 1996.

Southwest Interagency Law Enforcement Group. Member 1991 – 1992.

Sexual Misconduct Task Force, New Mexico State University. Member 1991 – 1992.

Numerous other activities, including teaching programs for civic organizations (such as the Rotary Clubs and Optimist Clubs) and helping with youth sports (coached and refereed soccer from 1981 – 1985 and assistant coach baseball from 1984 – 1988).

# Articles Published

***11 Roles of Unarmed Security Officers in Active Assailant Incidents*, Campus Safety Magazine**, print October 2018, pages 30-31, online October 25, 2018, available online at <https://www.campussafetymagazine.com/slideshow/11-roles-unarmed-security-officers/>

***Consider this Life-Saving Method with an Armed Attacker***, **Campus Safety Magazine**, print October 2018, page 31, online October 25, 2018, available online at <https://www.campussafetymagazine.com/public/life-saving-method-armed-attacker/>

***7 Steps to Improving Stadium and Large Event Security***, **Campus Safety Magazine**, online June 21, 2017, print August 2017, pages 18-21, available online at <https://www.campussafetymagazine.com/emergency/7-steps-to-improving-stadium-and-large-event-security/>

***Need Help Security Your Events? These Resources Can Help***, **Campus Safety Magazine**, online June 21, 2017, print August 2017, page 20, available online at <https://www.campussafetymagazine.com/emergency/need-help-securing-your-events-these-resources-can-help/>

***Addressing the Threat of Extremism on Your Campus,* Campus Safety Magazine,** online August 17, 2017, available online at <https://www.campussafetymagazine.com/?p=39455?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=content&eid=390617574&bid=1841288>

***"NMSU Prepares for H1N1",* The Las Cruces Bulletin**, Las Cruces, NM, circa Sept. 2009

***"H1N1 Gives Students Learning Opportunities",* The Las Cruces Bulletin**, Las Cruces, NM, circa Oct 2009

# Articles Where Cited

***All Top 10 Articles from April Have One Thing in Common: Acts of Violence,* Campus Safety Magazine,**online: April 29, 2022, available at <https://www.campussafetymagazine.com/safety/campus-safety-top-10-articles-april-acts-of-violence/>

***Are you a PIO? Test Your Incident Management Skills with This Quiz,* Campus Safety Magazine,** online: August 17, 2020, available at <https://www.campussafetymagazine.com/emergency/pio-quiz-incident-management/>

***Will COVID-19 Affect Weapons Detection on Your Campus?,* Campus Safety Magazine**, online: July 21, 2020, print edition: July/August 2020, Vol. 28, No. 4, pages 12-16, available at <https://www.campussafetymagazine.com/public/covid-19-weapons-detection-campus/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=content&eid=350369302&bid=2661944>

***10 Tips to plan for safety during extracurricular activities***, **Practical Strategies for Maintaining Safe Schools**, vol. 26, issue 1, January 2020, pages 1-2.

***4 Factors Your Graduation Security Plan Should Include***, **Campus Safety Magazine**, May 1, 2019, available at <https://www.campussafetymagazine.com/university/graduation-security-plan/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=content&eid=390617574&bid=2434874>

***Security Versus Free Speech on College Campuses,* Campus Safety Magazine**, January 15, 2018, available at <https://www.campussafetymagazine.com/university/free-speech-on-college-campuses-universities-debate/>

***Security Incidents Involve More Than Just Active Shooters,* Campus Safety Magazine,** August 16, 2017, available at <https://www.campussafetymagazine.com/news/security-incidents-active-shooters/>

***Back to School: Safety Considerations for College Public Safety Departments,* Campus Safety Magazine**, August 14, 2017, available at <https://www.campussafetymagazine.com/university/back-to-school-safety-considerations-for-college-public-safety-departments/>

***Advice to Security Professionals When Dealing with the Media,* Campus Safety Magazine**, June 26, 2015, available at<https://www.campussafetymagazine.com/news/advice_to_security_professionals_when_dealing_with_the_media/>

# Large Conference Presentations

# *Managing the New Normal and the Impact on Campus Police/Security,* Campus Safety Online Summit, July 8, 2020, Presenter

# *Crisis vs. Consequence Management,* Partners in Preparedness Conference, Albuquerque, NM, March 5, 2020, Presenter

***LTE to LMR: Tips for Integrating Push-to-Talk Cellular into Your Campus Radio System,* Campus Safety Conference - West,** Las Vegas, NV, June 18, 2019, Presenter

***LTE to LMR: Tips for Integrating Push-to-Talk Cellular into Your Campus Radio System,* Campus Safety Conference - Texas,** Irving, TX, July 22, 2019, Presenter

***LTE to LMR: Tips for Integrating Push-to-Talk Cellular into Your Campus Radio System,* Campus Safety Conference - East,** Charlotte, NC, August 7, 2019, Presenter

***Managing Minors on Campus,* Western Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators Annual Conference,** Kennewick, WA, November 6, 2019, Presenter

***Crisis vs. Consequence Management,* Western Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators Annual Conference,** Kennewick, WA, November 6, 2019, Presenter

***Keep It Simple Under Stress,* New Mexico Homeland Security and Emergency Management Conference,** Albuquerque, NM, August 28, 2018, Presenter, *Situational Awareness,* New Mexico Department of Agriculture – Annual Training Conference, Las Cruces, NM, April 26, 2018, C0-Presenter

***Warning Shots: Training Tips for Implementation by Instructors,* International Law Enforcement Educators and Trainers Association – Annual Conference,** March 22, 2018, Presenter.

***New Era of Title IX and Institutional Collaboration,* Southwestern Conference on Campus Sexual Violence**, Las Cruces, NM, November 2, 2017, Co-Presenter

***Preparing for and Managing Complex Incidents in PK-12 Schools/Systems,* NMSU College of Education Inaugural Symposium – Re-Imagining the Future of Learning,** Las Cruces, NM, October 19, 2017, Presenter

***Countering Violent Extremism and the Threat,* Campus Safety Conference – West,** Long Beach, CA, July 31, 2017, Presenter

***Preparing Students for College – The Safety Talk You Should Have With K12 Students,* Campus Safety Conference – West,** Long Beach, CA, July 31, 2017, Presenter

***Countering Violent Extremism and the Threat,* Campus Safety Conference – East,** Philadelphia, PA, July 13, 2017, Presenter

***Countering Violent Extremism and the Threat,* Campus Safety Conference – Texas,** Irving, TX, June 12, 2017, Presenter

***Preparing Students for College – The Safety Talk You Should Have With K12 Students,* Campus Safety Conference – Texas,** Irving, TX, June 12, 2017, Presenter

***Active Killer Response for Unarmed Security,* International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators – Annual Conference,** Milwaukee, WI, June 24, 2017, Presenter

***Mental Health and Law Enforcement,* J Paul Taylor Symposium on Social Justice,** Las Cruces, NM, March 15, 2017, Presenter/Panelist

***Drive-Thru PODs for SNS Distribution – Lessons Learned,* 2016 Homeland Security and Emergency Management Conference,** Albuquerque, NM, September 1, 2016, Presenter

***Panel: Militarization of Police,* Campus Safety Conference West,** Long Beach, CA, August 9, 2016, Panelist

***Hot Topics: Strategies for Unarmed Security,* Campus Safety Conference East,** National Harbor, MD, July 26, 2016, Presenter

***Media Tips for non-PIO Executives,* Campus Safety National Forum,** Washington, DC, June 26, 2015, Presenter

***Active Killer Response for Unarmed Security,* Campus Safety National Forum,** Washington, DC, June 25, 2015, Presenter

# *Active Shooter Situations – Unarmed Security Staff*, Campus Fire Safety Conference, Columbus, Ohio, March 3, 2014, Presenter.

***Select Fire On Patrol,* International Law Enforcement Educators and Trainers Association – Annual Conference**, March 2013, Presenter.

***Standards & Evaluations***, **Texas-New Mexico Association of College and University Police Departments - Annual Conference**, Las Cruces, NM, December 3, 1997, Presenter.

***Testing vs. Training: Knowing the Difference***, **American Society of Law Enforcement Trainers – Use of Force Seminar**, Los Angeles, CA, July 10-11, 1997, Presenter.

***Integrated Use of Force Training***, **American Society of Law Enforcement Trainers – Use of Force Seminar**, Meridian, ID, July 1996, Keynote Speaker.

***Teaching Self Defense***, **American Society of Law Enforcement Trainers – Use of Force Seminar**, Albuquerque, NM, July 6-7, 1995, Assistant Presenter.

# Webinars Conducted

***Targeted Personal Violence: Prevention & Response in Schools,*** April 21, 2022, re-broadcast on February 23, 2023, available at <https://www.campussafetymagazine.com/webcast/targeted-violence-schools/> and <https://www.campussafetymagazine.com/webcast/how-to-prevent-and-respond-to-targeted-school-violence/>

***Active Shooter Advanced Concepts: Issues for Campus Safety and School Response,*** October 7, 2021, available at<https://www.campussafetymagazine.com/webcast/active-shooter-events-outside-of-the-classroom-environment/>

***Active Shooter Basics: Training the Masses,*** October 7, 2021, available at<https://www.campussafetymagazine.com/webcast/active-shooter-basics-training-the-masses/>

***Post-Columbine: Key Lessons Learned About Active Killer Situations,*** May 7, 2020, available at <https://www.campussafetymagazine.com/webcast/post-columbine-top-lessons-learned-about-active-killer-situations/>

***Safety Planning for Extracurricular Activities at Schools***, January 24, 2019, available at <https://www.campussafetymagazine.com/webcast/safety-planning-for-extracurricular-activities-in-k12-schools/>

***Handling the Aftermath of an Active Shooter Event,*** August 23, 2018, available at <https://www.campussafetymagazine.com/webcast/handling-the-aftermath-of-an-active-shooter-event/>

***K.I.S.U.S. - Emergency Planning for Complex Emergencies***, January 25, 2018, re-broadcast on November 15, 2018, available at <https://www.campussafetymagazine.com/webcast/k-i-s-u-s-emergency-planning-for-complex-emergencies/> and <https://www.campussafetymagazine.com/webcast/emergency-planning-for-complex-emergencies/>