

New Mexico State Police Media Alert

NMSP Leading HazMat Investigation Following Deadly Exposure at Mountainair Residence

At approximately 11:00 a.m., today, May 20th the New Mexico State Police responded to 306 Hanlon Ave. in Mountainair, New Mexico, to assist the Torrance County Sheriff's Office with what was initially believed to be a suspected overdose involving an unidentified substance.

Four individuals inside the residence were found unresponsive. Three of the four individuals are now deceased.

During the response, 18 first responders were exposed to the substance and began experiencing symptoms, including nausea and dizziness. The occupant and 18 first responders were transported to the University of New Mexico Hospital, where they are currently being quarantined, evaluated, and monitored. Two first responders are currently listed in serious condition.

Albuquerque Fire Rescue HazMat teams are assisting at the scene in efforts to identify the substance involved. At this time, investigators believe the substance may be transmitted through contact and do not believe it to be airborne.

There is currently no threat to the public. A secure perimeter has been established, and the affected area remains limited to the residence.

The New Mexico State Police are leading this ongoing and active investigation. Additional information will be released as it becomes available.

We ask the public to avoid the area and keep all affected individuals and first responders in their thoughts.