



# NEW MEXICO **MOTOR** **TRANSPORTATION** **POLICE**

## **New Mexico DPS Motor Transportation Police Explorer Post #2003 Receives Top Honors**

By Officer Ricardo J. Rodriguez and Deputy Chief Mark C. Rowley, NM Department of Public Safety/Motor Transportation Police

On Saturday, February 11, 2012, twenty Police Explorers from the New Mexico Department of Public Safety, Motor Transportation Police Explorer Post #2003 competed in the Border Challenge Criminal Justice Competition, sponsored by the Horizon High School Criminal Justice program in Horizon City Texas. A total of 8 teams participated in the competition, which was judged by representatives from the El Paso County Sheriff's and Constable's Dept.

The competition consisted of six different events with participants competing in both team and individual categories. The events consisted of low risk traffic stops, high risk/felony traffic stops, fingerprint lifting and identification, obstacle course, robbery in progress response, and SWAT/Hostage resolution.

The one day competition culminated with the awards presentation, where the Motor Transportation Police Explorer Post #2003 walked away victorious by earning the highest combined score in the competition and being awarded the Championship Cup in addition to 1<sup>st</sup> place in felony traffic stops, fingerprint lifting and identification, obstacle course and SWAT/Hostage resolution and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the female obstacle course.

Police Explorer Post #2003 is organized under the Boy Scouts of America Learning for Life program and sponsored by the New Mexico Motor Transportation Police in conjunction with the Gadsden Independent School District's criminal justice program. Open to young men and women between the ages of 14 to 20, Police Explorers are required to attend an 85 hour police academy which challenges each cadet both academically and physically, while instilling pride, discipline and self-confidence. Upon successful completion of training, each cadet earns the title of "Police Explorer" and is awarded their badge and certificate of completion.

Police Explorer Post #2003 is now working toward raising \$10,000 to sponsor 15 Explorers to participate and compete in the 2012 National Police Explorer competition which will be held in Denver, Colorado from July 16 to July 21, 2012. This conference not only allows the Explorers the opportunity to network and interact with their peers, but more importantly, it also gives them the opportunity of a week of team and individual competitions, seminars, demonstrations, exhibits, recreation and fun.



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*Names of participants as they appear in the photograph:*

**Rear Row (L to R):** Instructor Ernest Najera, Vanessa Flores, Jesus Medrano, Jorge Velasco, Javier Casares, Jonathan Arrieta, Esmeralda Ochoa, Erik Botello, Vivianne Rutiaga, Jorge Perez, Yuseff Lockett, Cristal Quinonez, Edgar Castaneda, Jeniffer Martinez.

**Front Row (LtoR):** Instructor Samuel Gomez, Edwin Guillen, Vanessa Reza, Zariyah Romero, Jasmin Gutierrez, Jamie Guerra, Arlette Lopez, Yesenia Luna, Instructor Rick Rodriguez.



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## New Mexico Motor Transportation Police Explorer Post #2003 Instructors



*Instructors* **Samuel Marquez Ernest Najera Jr - Ricardo J Rodriguez**  
**New Mexico Dep of Public Safety - Motor Transportation Police Division**  
**Police Explorer Academy Class #11-02 "Praetorian Elites" Police Explorer Post#2003**  
**INSTRUCTOR CADRE Jan 14 2012**

