

Working on PLAYAS TIMES

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PLAYAS TODAY

PRTC began 20 years ago as a premier training arena for first responders and counter-terrorism programs and has expanded its capabilities for military, homeland security, law enforcement, and research entities. Through its expanded mission, PRTC has an academically led, responsive research and training environment with the goal of replicating combat conditions and performing simultaneous operations to support multi-service, joint, and coalition Information Dominance. While leaning on stakeholders, PRTC is continuing to build a reconfigurable, responsive foundation of spectrum, security, connectivity, open-air networks, and a power & fiber backbone.



The motto at PRTC is “It’s not Playas OR, It is Playas AND.” PRTC offers what many cannot. Over the last two decades, PRTC has invested in infrastructure and assets that make it an ideal test-bed for research, experimentation, and training. This facility is additive and complementary for other facilities, research, and training experiences.

RESEARCH AT NEW MEXICO TECH

In FY 2024, New Mexico Tech had over \$118 million in research expenditures.



In addition to our world-class academic research, New Mexico Tech has more than a dozen research centers and institutes that work with private industry, government agencies and other universities. These divisions employ undergraduate students, offer research opportunities for graduate students and contribute ground-breaking research to the scientific canon and the world of industry, science and engineering.

RED FLAG-RESCUE

The Playas facility is designed to accommodate a wide range of military and security exercises. Whether for search and rescue, high-value target tracking, or flag-level exercise support, the environment offers comprehensive support.

Red Flag-Rescue is the Department of Defense's premier combat search and rescue (CSAR) exercise, hosted by Davis-Monthan Air Force Base at PRTC. It involves other service branches, as well as partner nations and is roughly two weeks long. Whether it is a mass casualty or a downed pilot rescue, the participants of RF-R utilize the skills learned from their respective training pipeline and sharpen them through repetition so that if the need arises to utilize CSAR there is no room for doubt. The exercise provides advanced, realistic and relevant air-to-surface integration warfighter training in a robust, and operationally limited, environment. Whether the US military is providing humanitarian aid during a natural disaster, or proving combat power in a conflict, learning how to execute CSAR missions in a joint-service environment will drastically improve mission success rates.



There are several DHS/FEMA certified training programs for emergency personnel of all disciplines offered at NMT/PRTC. For a complete list of classes go to nmtraining.com.

LAST QUARTER TRAININGS

From April through June, we hosted first responder groups from all over the country who visited for specialized training.



4 classes
109 students



7 classes
159 students



Where have they traveled from?



TOUGH TIMES DON'T LAST, TOUGH TEAMS DO

They say it takes a village and we can attest to that. Here at PRTC, every employee is an integral part of what we do. Whether you're a manager or support staff, our employees work together daily for the common goal of accelerating research and training through a personalized customer experience.

INTERESTED IN JOINING OUR TEAM? WE HAVE PLENTY OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW EMPLOYEES!

For more information, visit nmt.edu/hr/employment/php.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Teresita Somoza was born in Roswell, NM and moved to Animas when she was 13. She graduated from Animas High in 1986 and immediately entered the work force. Over the years she has worked in the service industry, both in food and custodial. She went to work for PRTC in 2004 as a Maintenance Associate and quickly moved over to the custodial side. She was promoted to a Custodial Lead in 2018. On top of general custodial duties, she also manages inventory and sends product orders to her supervisor.

Teri lives in Windmill and commutes to Playas everyday. When she's not working she enjoys spending time with her son, Alberto, and her two grandbabies, Ella (2) and Damian (1). She also enjoys reading a good Stephen King thriller when she has time.

Teri's favorite part about working at PRTC is all the joking around between the custodial staff. It's a good group of ladies to work with.

DID YOU KNOW THAT WE HAVE OVER 30 EMPLOYEES?

Whether it's full time or part time, we're proud to support members of Hidalgo County.

PLAYAS IN THE COMMUNITY



Over 120 kids from Animas and Lordsburg schools attended an Easter Egg Hunt hosted by PRTC on April 2. PRTC staff filled 1,300 eggs with goodies and golden tickets for special prizes. Members of the Hidalgo County Fire Department also gave tours and demonstrations of the fire trucks to each class. Thank you to all the staff that helped make it such a special event.



PRTC set up a booth at EHCO's "Get Outside, Hidalgo" event promoting outdoor recreation county wide on April 12-13 at Veteran's Park. This event marked the inauguration of Lordsburg as a Gateway Community for the Continental Divide Trail. PRTC handed out material showcasing our 1K fun walk/coat fundraiser we have scheduled for later this year.



PRTC hosted the opening day of the 2024 Southwest District 4-H Contest on June 18. This contest had around 265 youth participants, ages 8-12, from 7 different counties. PRTC sponsored the first day of events, which consisted of archery, .22 rifle, horse judging, and horse bowl. PRTC staff worked very hard preparing the facilities for the contests.

EFFORTS TO GIVE BACK

PRTC was well represented at several community activities this last quarter, including the Hidalgo County Clean-Up, sponsored by the Lordsburg Economic Advancement Project, and the Hidalgo County "Light the Night" Cancer Walk at the Lordsburg High School Track.

We are proud to be part of a community that cares so much for it's members and surrounding areas

DO YOU HAVE OR NEED STEM-BASED OUTREACH OR EDUCATION?

We'd love to partner with you on any type of STEM or community-based training or event. Whether you are a government agency, school entity, community organization or private sector business we have numerous training and partnering opportunities available. We can host tours, offer facilities for trainings, and provide presentations and demonstrations by experts in several different fields. The possibilities are endless!

Reach out to Erica Valdez, our Community Outreach & Economic Development Specialist at (575) 202-9547 or erica.valdez@nmt.edu for more information.