

Town of Bernalillo

Office of the Mayor P r e s s R e l e a s e

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 18, 2009

Media Contact:

Raul Araujo

505-771-5896

raraujo@townofbernalillo.org

TOWN OF BERNALILLO E911 ADDRESS CANVASSING PROJECT

Town of Bernalillo, NM (June 18, 2009) In an effort to provide better emergency response to the citizens of the Town of Bernalillo, Mayor Patricia A. Chávez, Police Chief Fred Radosevich and Fire Chief John Estrada announce an address canvassing campaign to check that all residences and businesses have address numbers that are visible from the roadway, and that the numbers are in the E911 dispatch center database.

Over the next few weeks the Town of Bernalillo Police and Fire and Rescue Department personnel and volunteers will conduct a community outreach effort to improve 911 response times by correcting and/or improving address number sign information. Some Town of Bernalillo residents would be surprised to know that their home may not be found on the region's most critical maps and databases. This might not be that important on an ordinary day but could mean life or death in the case of an emergency.

Staff and volunteers will look for homes, businesses or other premises with missing, old or incorrect addresses and provide new address numbers or apartment unit letters free of charge. Town citizens can also stop by the Town Hall to pick up their free address numbers and letters.

New Mexico's E911 project is a service that automatically provides the regional 911 dispatchers with a location and address on the 911 call that has come in. The technology and accuracy of the E911 continues to improve. Enhancements can now locate calls from a cell phone as well as the regular landline home phone. But occasionally when the Bernalillo emergency response unit arrives in the area, the residence or business has no visible or an inaccurate address number sign. In some cases, in violation of municipal code and state law, there is no address sign at all.

This public safety effort is in conjunction with establishment of the town's new geographic information (GIS) mapping system that will update and track address data, and support the regional E911 operation. GIS allows for a seamless integration of E911 mission critical data with county and state 911 systems. Mayor Patricia A. Chávez states, "The safety of our citizens is a priority and the town's investment in this technology will bring us into the 21st century to ensure prompt emergency response when required".

If you have any questions or comments, please contact GIS Services for the Town of Bernalillo, at (505) 867-3311.

Office of the Mayor – Press Release
