

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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New Mexico State Parks Official Toby Velasquez Recognized For Outstanding Work As President of the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators

Santa Fe, NM – Toby Velasquez, Boating Safety and Law Enforcement Bureau Chief with New Mexico’s Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, was recently recognized for his outstanding work, contributions and leadership as the 2013 President of the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA).

In a letter to Governor Susana Martinez, NASBLA CEO John Johnson praised Velasquez for leading the launch of the association’s Recreational Boating Safety (RBS) Professional Certification Program which recognizes sustained, comprehensive achievement across a multi-disciplinary array of RBS program experiences such as law enforcement, boater education, and outreach and awareness.

New Mexico Governor Susana Martinez also praised Velasquez for using his role as NASBLA President to highlight the safety work done at New Mexico State Parks. “Toby Velasquez has shown tremendous dedication by developing and implementing comprehensive, uniform, boater safety policies and procedures that positively impact New Mexico and our country,” said Governor Martinez. “As the NASBLA’s immediate past president and our Boater Safety and Law Enforcement Bureau Chief, Toby and his team work hard to ensure boaters in New Mexico State Parks have a safe, enjoyable experience. We thank Mr. Velasquez and all of his staff on their efforts.”

Under Velasquez’ leadership, NASBLA set national standards for boater education and launched two new Officer Water Survival Courses. During his tenure, Velasquez also developed a new reference guide for boat accident reporting. He also continues to advocate for crucial federal dollars for state parks and natural resource agencies.

Velasquez was the first New Mexican, first Hispanic, and youngest boating law administrator to be elected as the NASBLA president. He has worked for the New Mexico State Parks Division since 1999 and became a bureau chief in March, 2006.



*Toby Velasquez
Chief of Boating and Law Enforcement for New Mexico State Parks Division*

The State Parks Division offers FREE boating safety classes around the state and on-line throughout the year. Always make safety your number one priority—being prepared on the water saves lives.

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The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection and renewable energy resource development services to the public and other state agencies.

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