History of Silver City

Silver City is also known as San Vicente de la Cienega. We are nestled in the foothills of Southwestern New Mexico adjacent to the Gila Wilderness. It is a wild and beautiful country, inhabited by friendly people.

Silver City is a vibrant community nestled alongside more than 3 million acres of the Gila Wilderness. With historic ties to mining, ranching and agriculture, our community has grown into a modern town with friendly people growing businesses and terrific year-round climate.

The Town of Silver City was established in 1870 and became the second incorporated community in New Mexico in 1878. The first public school in New Mexico opened in Silver City in 1882, the railroad arrived in 1883 and New Mexico Territorial Normal School (today’s Western New Mexico University) was founded in 1893.

The Town continued to grow as the hub of business for the agriculture, health, mining and natural resources related industries in Grant County, and by 1905 several businessmen decided that it was time to establish a Chamber of Commerce for the community. The Chamber has continued to “serve its members by promoting business and commerce in Grant County” ever since.

Silver City Police Department

1011 N. Hudson
PO Box 997
Silver City NM 88061

Phone: (575) 538-3723
Fax: (575) 538-3726
Mission Statement

"It is the mission of the Silver City Police Department to provide services with integrity and dedication, to preserve life, to enforce the law, and to work in partnership with the community to enhance the quality of life in the Town of Silver City."

Message From the Chief

The Silver City Police Department is a progressive agency comprised of professional individuals who operate under the Community Oriented Policing Philosophy. We continue to strive towards providing the best possible service to the citizens of Silver City and to those who visit our community. The Silver City Police Department is looking for those men and women who have high standards, values, are of excellent moral character and who strive to serve with integrity, honesty and pride. Please come take a look at our Department for a rewarding career in law enforcement.

Certified Law Enforcement Professionals are offered the following areas:

- Field Services
- Community Policing
- Criminal Investigations
- Crime Scene Processing
- Narcotics Unit
- D.A.R.E. Unit
- Emergency Response Team
- Crash Scene Reconstruction

Competitive Compensation Package

- Starting Non-Certified: $40,788.80 ($19.61)
- Starting Certified: $42,243.00 ($20.79)
- Holiday Pay
- 80 Hours Vacation per year
- 96 Hours Sick Leave per year
- 2.5% Cost of living increase yearly
- Shift Differential (6% Evenings 8% Grave yards)
- Longevity Pay (TOSC Years of Service)
- Group Health-Life Insurance
- 100% Paid Health Insurance
- P.E.R.A 25 Year Retirement
- Overtime Availability
- On-Call Pay
- PERA Employer Contribution 32.5%
- Physical Fitness - 3 hours earned weekly
- Deferred Compensation Program
- Education Incentive Pay:
  - $2,000 for AA or AS Degree
  - $3,000 for BA or BS Degree

Employment Qualifications

- Minimum High School Education
- No Felony Convictions
- No Convictions of Domestic Violence
- Valid New Mexico Drivers License
- 19 Years of age or older
- Able to pass Entry Written Exam, Background and Psychological Exam
- Must be able to complete NM Law Enforcement Academy Program

Fitness Standards Entrance

Push-Ups
1-minute maximum number of push-ups 15 Repetitions

Sit-Ups
1-minute maximum number of sit-ups 27 Repetitions

1 1/2 Mile Run
15:54 (minutes:seconds)

300 Meter Run
71.0 seconds