



# State of New Mexico

## *Office of the Governor*

**Bill Richardson**  
Governor

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## **Governor Richardson Appoints Forrest Smith as New Emergency Management Director**

*Santa Fe* - Governor Bill Richardson today announced he has appointed Forrest L. Smith as Director of the Department of Public Safety's Office of Emergency Management. Smith replaces Tim Manning who was recently appointed by the Governor as Homeland Security Advisor.

"Forrest Smith, with his extensive experience in emergency operations and resource management, is exactly the type of person we need on the frontlines," said Governor Bill Richardson. "Not only has he worked on a local level, but he knows what it takes to keep the state prepared from anything to floods and fires to other potential emergencies."

Smith is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, and served with the New Mexico State Police for 24 years. During his time with the NM State Police, Smith served as Adjutant Chief retiring in 2004, Chief Information Officer, Board Chairman of the Western Community Policing Institute, and as a Bomb Team Technician.

The OEM is the agency charged with the coordination of preparedness, response and recovery to large emergencies and disasters in New Mexico. In this position, Smith will be responsible to the Homeland Security Advisor and the Secretary of Public Safety for direction, management, and operations of the state-wide emergency management system, including disaster preparedness, emergency and disaster response, and operational homeland security programs.