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## **Courthouse Facility Dogs Program**

Courthouse Facility Dogs are highly trained assistance dogs whom partner with professionals in District Attorney offices, child advocacy centers, and family courts. They primarily provide a calming influence for children during stressful legal proceedings. As legally neutral companions for witnesses during the investigation and prosecution of crimes, these dogs help the most vulnerable witnesses feel willing and able to describe what happened. The dogs also provide emotional support to participants in family court proceedings and in specialty/treatment courts. ADW is a leading training and placement organization of Courthouse Facility Dogs, having to date placed over 25 Courthouse Facility Dogs in New Mexico and other states, and the first within a Tribal Court setting.

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### **Details**

**Ages:** All ages

**Genders:** All

**Special Needs:** Persons involved in judicial system

**Contact:** Linda Milanese

**Contact Email:** [info@assistedogsofthewest.org](mailto:info@assistedogsofthewest.org)

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### **Services**

Criminal Justice & Legal Services   Courts   Crisis Intervention

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### **Locations**

#### **ADW - Santa Fe Training Center and Headquarters**

*1590 San Mateo Ln*

*Santa Fe, NM 87505*

**Mailing:**

*PO Box 31027, Santa Fe, NM 87594*

*Santa Fe, NM 87505*

**Phone:** (505) 986-9748

**Services Limited By Geography:** No

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### **Parent Organization**

#### **Assistance Dogs of the West**

Assistance Dogs of the West (ADW) builds successful working partnerships between clients and dogs that

empower people and open doors to new opportunities. ADW fulfills its mission by:

~Raising and training dogs with kindness and respect to assist children and adults with disabilities.

~Teaching students of all abilities, including elementary, middle and high school, youth with disabilities and veterans of various combats, to help train our dogs. These programs instill confidence, responsibility, communication skills and respect for diversity.

~Educating and advocating for people with visible and invisible disabilities and their right to have service dogs for greater independence in daily living.

~Training facility dogs to work with therapists in a variety of settings; in the Judicial System in the investigation and prosecution of crimes against vulnerable victims; and as Crisis Response Canines on Rapid Deployment Teams responding to mass events.

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***Type:*** Nonprofit

***EIN:*** 850431646

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