

"Three Strikes" Life Sentencing

NMCDLA believes that:

- Violent offenders slip through the cracks of the New Mexico criminal justice system and offend again, not because sentencing laws are too lenient, but because the three branches of the New Mexico criminal justice system are seriously under-funded.
- Too many seriously violent offenders are able to avoid long prison sentences because there are simply not enough resources to prosecute these individuals to the full extent of existing laws.

NMCDLA supports:

- Adequately funded courtrooms, prosecutors, public defenders so that repeat violent offenders can be prosecuted and sentenced under New Mexico's existing habitual offender sentencing laws.

NMCDLA opposes:

- The expansion of the "three strikes" sentencing laws for any offender except the most violent felons who have consistently inflicted great bodily harm on their victims.
- Life sentences for repeat offenders who commit property crimes like burglary, forgery, or non-violent drug crimes.

For further information:

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