

# EAGA Business Builder

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September 26, 2023

## There was not a speaker scheduled for today.

We continued a discussion initiated last month concerning suggestions we can offer for combating the crime and homelessness problems that exist in our community

Members of the Executive Association of Greater Albuquerque are some of the most knowledgeable and well informed businessmen of our community. Many have been in Albuquerque for their entire lives and a lot of them own/operate businesses that have been a part of the community for generations. All EAGA members are interested in helping create and maintain a vibrant and thriving place for businesses and families to live. But they are also very aware of the current unfriendly and actually dangerous atmosphere that has been created by increasing crime and the substantial influx of homeless individuals in the area. At our meeting in late August, we launched an initiative to figure out how EAGA members can use their talent, concern and influence to help eliminate the issues and situations that are inhibiting our community's ability to become a great place. During the August meeting, members offered suggestions for how to make appropriate changes occur. Although all of the ideas were good, some were on the 'grand scale of things' level. Things like "Criminal cases need to be tried quickly", "Get the drug problem under control" and "Close the country's borders" are reasonable suggestions but are not really solutions that we can take and run with. However, the meeting also produced some ideas that would have a more immediate and tenable solutions to the root causes of the problems. Thoughts like "Organize greater business community involvement & collaboration" and "Form a type of EAGA crime alliance". Our meeting today was intended to be a continuation of the discussion, and a time for better refinement of how EAGA can contribute to (or cause) a quicker and longer lasting improvement on the situation. Today we spent some time talking about the need for businesses to become more directly involved. We discussed how EAGA could potentially act as a voice for better crime management. We talked at great length about qualified immunity for law enforcement personnel. The removal of that provision has negatively impacted the ability to hire and retain good police officers. It also has had a very negative affect on how the remaining officers are able to do their duties. Perhaps EAGA could initiate public discussions about the true meaning of what qualified immunity is and what it is not, with an emphasis on why it is actually beneficial for proper and effective law enforcement. We discussed exploring the idea of starting an insurance policy that businesses and home owners could buy that would offer death and disability insurance if a police officer were hurt on your premises, and a legal insurance that would defend them if they were sued, for properly carrying out their duties. [Preliminary research indicates that such a coverage may be possible via a 'pool' scenario. If so, there would likely be a requirement for a \$1million backing, and there would have to be formal determinations regarding what the 'contract' pays and what costs are eligible. There needs to be additional discussion regarding the 'personal injury' potential as well. Further investigation is still needed.] At the meeting we also talked about creating an entity that would expose repeat criminals, their families and where they lived. The idea would be to target them with a public awareness campaign that would make it difficult for them to operate in the city. On a very related note: The ACLU has just obtained a judge's order stating that the city cannot remove homeless camps without a multiple day notice, and the city cannot take the personal belongings of individuals who will not vacate public property. That is a substantial setback to the minimal effort that the city was taking to tackle some of the vagrant homeless issue. If those ACLU type of actions are the only voice the citizens hear, there will not be much change. One of our members—New Mexico Business Coalition (Larry Sonntag) is in the process of taking the opposite form of action. They will be suing the City of Albuquerque to require the city's enforcement of existing laws. A similar lawsuit has already been successful in Phoenix and the same law firm that litigated that case is working with the Business Coalition for the Albuquerque filings. If you want to contribute to the fund for paying the costs of that lawsuit, please visit their website <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/abqcrimecrisislegalfund> to make a contribution. Donors can remain anonymous. Stay tuned...There will be more discussions in the future about what we can do as businesses, individuals and as EAGA to help, or force, our community to become a better, more desirable place to live and work.

- ◆ The 2023 EAGA Directory (paper version) will be published soon. It is very important that you review your information as it exists in the current directory. If any of that information is not correct, please make appropriate changes IN THE DIRECTORY COPY THAT IS CIRCULATED AT OUR TUESDAY MEETING. If the information is already correct, then please put a check mark next to your name in that book so that Mario knows you have approved it 'as is'. If you have not had an opportunity to make necessary changes, and won't be at the meeting on October 3rd, please send Mario an email indicating changes that need to be made before the new publication.

EAGA Contact information for Executive Director: Mario Hernandez  
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- ◆ EAGA's Dr. Jim Fanning Memorial Trap Shoot will begin at 8:45am on October 6th at the Albuquerque Trap Club (9617 Broadway Blvd, SE). There will also be a raffle in conjunction with the event. If you haven't signed up yet and still want to participate, please contact Rick Reese as soon as possible. Raffle tickets (\$100 each) are still available. See TJ Maloy, or Rick Reese for those.
- ◆ An upcoming EAGA social event for members and their spouse!!! A corn hole tournament on Wednesday, October 18th at Rio Bravo Brewery, beginning at 6:00pm. Signup sheets will be available at our Tuesday breakfast meetings.
- ◆ First announcement of a new member application:  
High Desert Doppler  
Representative: John K A Jain Jr  
Category: Healthcare Delivery  
Sponsor: John Mead

**Second announcement of a new member application:**

DcJ Solutions  
Representative: Douglas Johnson  
Category: Quality and Analytics Consulting  
Sponsor: Tom Pascuzzi, MD

If you have an objection to either of these companies becoming a member, or if you have information that you feel should be considered during the review process, please contact our Membership Committee Chairman, Jack Zipper (via telephone number 505-259-5959 or email at [jdzipper@comcast.net](mailto:jdzipper@comcast.net)) as soon as possible.

## Badge Board Greeters

Oct 03 <sup>rd</sup>	Mike Vidal—PLTI
Oct 10 <sup>th</sup>	Michael Kocurek—Atmosphere Commercial Interiors
Oct 17 <sup>th</sup>	Frank McCallister—Color New Mexico
Oct 24 <sup>th</sup>	
Oct 31 <sup>st</sup>	Kevin Lorenzen—Aflac
Nov 07 <sup>th</sup>	Michael Kocurek—Atmosphere Commercial Interiors
Nov 14 <sup>th</sup>	
Nov 21 <sup>st</sup>	
Nov 28 <sup>th</sup>	

## Upcoming Speakers

Oct 03 <sup>rd</sup>	Timmy Simms—Territorial Scaffolding
Oct 10 <sup>th</sup>	
Oct 17 <sup>th</sup>	Guest Speaker Chris Japp—Tramway Venture Partners
Oct 24 <sup>th</sup>	Lawrence Herrera—Performance Ranch
Oct 31 <sup>st</sup>	
Nov 07 <sup>th</sup>	Dr. Tom Pascuzzi—GoPrivateMD
Nov 14 <sup>th</sup>	John Mead—John Thomas Jewelers
Nov 21 <sup>st</sup>	
Nov 28 <sup>th</sup>	

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