

City of Hobbs Contact:

Meghan Mooney, Dir. of Communications
575-391-4169

mmooney@hobbsnm.org

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Baby Box Activated for the Second Time in Hobbs, New Mexico

For the second time, the baby box located at Fire Station 1 in Hobbs, New Mexico served its purpose the week of May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024. A healthy newborn baby boy was placed safe and sound inside the compartment.

Upon notification from the baby box safety alarm, the infant was transported to Covenant Health Hobbs Hospital.

It is important to repeat the baby was found to be healthy and well cared for when found by Hobbs Fire Department personnel.

At this time, the baby is in the custody of the Children, Youth & Families Department.

## Additional Information about safe havens within the state of New Mexico:

Each police station, fire department, and hospital are considered safe haven sites which by New Mexico law shall accept an infant without the individual or parent being subject to criminal prosecution. A newborn baby up to 90 days old may be surrendered at one of these sites without worry of repercussions to the parent(s) in the state of New Mexico.

This Safe Haven Baby Box is about the safety and future of the child. The responsibility of a parent is waived without judgment or punishment to preserve the child's health and wellbeing. The baby box at Fire Station 1 is an environmentally controlled incubator device designed to keep an infant in a secure and safe environment with sufficient oxygen, a comfortable temperature, and equipped with a transparent door and safety alarm to immediately notify the operator(s) that an infant has been placed in the device.

For press communications and further updates, please contact the City of Hobbs Fire Chief at <a href="mailto:mdoporto@hobbsnm.org">mdoporto@hobbsnm.org</a>.

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