

# NMDPS - FIREARMS (OPEN CARRY) AND CAMERAS

Scam artists like to target unwitting and gullible victims. In New Mexico, there's a new scam and it's all over YouTube. Who are the victims? Police officers!

A few things to know first:

- Need reasonable suspicion to stop and detain people.
- If there is no reasonable suspicion, a person can refuse to give ID to a police officer.
- People in New Mexico can "open carry" loaded firearms almost everywhere.
- People have a right to film police officers.

## HOW THE SCAM WORKS

- You're on a routine call. A person walks up, firearm on hip, and starts filming you. Another person walks brazenly down the street, firearm on hip, and citizens are concerned. What are you going to do?
- Many officers ask for ID and the majority of people furnish it. This person refuses.
- Some people who refuse to furnish ID start to ask you questions.
- Examples: Am I being detained? Am I free to go? Have I committed a crime?

If you handcuff the person or detain the person without reasonable suspicion, you just paid his or her next trip to Cancun. You may find yourself on YouTube. Don't fall for this scam!

## What to do

There may be other factors that indicate this person really is a threat. Otherwise, be polite and wish this (law abiding) person a nice day. (2013)

- - - ADA Elliott Guttman, Law Enforcement Academy



**These cops never do nothin'!**