

NEW MEXICO SECURITY OFFICER JURISPRUDENCE & COMPETENCY EXAM

Candidate Name: _____

Date: _____

Position Applied For: _____

Score: _____ / 100

1. A security officer's authority is generally: A) Greater than police authority B) Equal to police authority C) Limited to the authority granted by law and property owner D) Unlimited on private property
2. Can a security officer arrest someone for a misdemeanor not committed in their presence? A) Yes B) No C) Only with supervisor approval D) Only at night
3. What is the primary purpose of a security officer? A) Punish offenders B) Investigate crimes C) Protect people, property, and assets D) Conduct interrogations
4. When should law enforcement be notified? A) Only after a suspect leaves B) For serious crimes, threats, or emergencies C) Never D) Only if requested by a customer
5. A security officer's report may later become: A) Evidence in court B) A marketing document C) Personal property D) Confidential forever
6. What is the first option in most confrontations? A) Physical force B) Verbal de-escalation C) Handcuffs D) Pepper spray
7. Force used by a security officer must be: A) Reasonable and necessary B) Greater than the suspect's force C) Equal to police force D) Approved afterward
8. A suspect becomes compliant. The officer should: A) Continue force B) Increase force C) Reduce force D) Leave immediately
9. Deadly force is justified: A) To protect property B) To stop shoplifting C) When facing an imminent threat of death or great bodily harm D) To prevent trespassing
10. Which creates the greatest liability? A) Professional communication B) Proper documentation C) Excessive force D) Calling police
11. You observe a shoplifter leaving with merchandise. What are your first actions?
12. A customer becomes verbally aggressive but makes no threats. How do you respond?
13. You find an unsecured door during patrol. What steps do you take?
14. An employee reports a theft that occurred earlier in the day. What should you do?
15. A person refuses to leave private property after being directed to do so.
16. Why is accurate report writing important?
17. What information should every incident report contain?

18. What is wrong with the statement: 'The suspect looked guilty.'
19. Describe the difference between facts and opinions.
20. Write a brief report describing a vehicle accident in a parking lot.
21. Describe your most difficult security incident.
22. Have you ever testified in court or provided a written statement for law enforcement?
23. Describe your experience with access control, patrols, CCTV, or alarm systems.
24. What would you do if a supervisor instructed you to violate company policy?
25. Why should we trust you with the safety of our client and their property?

PASSING SCORE: 80–89 = Qualified | 90–100 = Highly Recommended | Below 80 = Additional Training Recommended