



BENNY L. JASSO, MAYOR

AARON SERA, ADMINISTRATOR

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Richard J. Berry, Mayor
City of Albuquerque
P.O. Box 1293
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

Dear Mayor Berry,

As Mayor of the City Deming, I am writing in support of an exemption for law enforcement retirees from the Return to Work Law. Making the changes necessary that would allow retired police officers to not have to suspend the pension they have earned in order to continue serving the public is of critical importance to all Municipalities. This legislation is critical because it would assist with filling funded vacant positions, recruitment and retaining valuable experience and institutional knowledge in the development of this highly skilled work force.

Deming, like so many of the towns and cities in the state, has experienced a short fall in the availability of officers and officer candidates. The Deming Police Department over the last seven years has currently had openings that they have not been able to fill. The City of Deming supports your efforts in addressing the "Return to Work" as it presents liability issues not just to our municipality, but to the officers operating in the field.

A reasonable and limited return to work provision would alleviate these shortages that our local governments are experiencing in law enforcement.

Respectfully,


Benny L. Jasso, Mayor
City of Deming