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New Rule: No Cash For Off-Duty Cop Details

### ***NOPD Superintendent, Inspector General Crack Down***

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**NEW ORLEANS** -- You see them at banks, supermarkets, pharmacies -- New Orleans police officers working private security details. The problem is, up until now, there has been no way of tracking their hours or their cash pay. But that is about to change.

"It's just problematic. It's a situation that's bound to breed corruption," said New Orleans Inspector General Ed Quatrevaux.

Quatrevaux said police officers working private duty details shouldn't be paid in cash.

"When cash changes hands and it's not recorded, and it's involving people in uniform with authority over citizens, it's a problematic situation," Quatrevaux said.

At a news conference Monday, NOPD Superintendent Ronal Serpas announced his new 65-point plan to reform the department. Key among those points was the rule about no cash for officers working details. Serpas said officers can work 24 hours of detail per week, and starting Oct. 1, a computer system will keep track of those hours.

"We've never had that before, so quite honestly we really don't know. We had paperwork that said they worked various days, for various people, but we don't have any facts," Serpas said.

Raphael Goyeneche of the Metropolitan Crime Commission said the new system can help prevent abuse.

"If there's a cash payment, then that officer doesn't necessarily have to report it to the department. He can exceed the limits that the department places on officers to work the private duty details over the course of a week," Goyeneche said.

Officers must be paid by check or money order.

"Because we can see who's doing what, we can see who's paying for what. We can see who's working an off-duty detail and charging the clock at the NOPD at the same time," Quatrevaux said. "Without that kind of oversight, you can't control it."

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