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MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE - NEW MEXICO

State v. Goodman

Court of Appeals of New Mexico - October 6, 2016 - P.3d - 2016 WL 5864596

Following a guilty plea after denial of motion to suppress, defendant was convicted in the Metropolitan Court of obstructing traffic. Defendant appealed.

The District Court affirmed. Defendant appealed.

The Court of Appeals held that defendant's 5- to 15-second delay in proceeding from a red light did not constitute obstructing traffic in violation of city ordinance prohibiting obstructing traffic.

Motorist's 5- to 15-second delay in proceeding forward from intersection when traffic signal turned from red to green did not constitute "obstructing traffic," under city ordinance prohibiting obstructing traffic. Delay, without any indication as to why it occurred, was no threat to public safety or free use of city's roads, and there was no indication that following motorist was inconvenienced or was forced to wait through another full light cycle at intersection.

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