



# State of New Mexico

## *Department of Public Safety*

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Contact: Peter Olson  
(505) 827-3361

### Frigid River Cramps Escape

Farmington—Police officers capture a wanted felon after he tried to float away in the frigid water of the San Juan River near Farmington. John Hampton was wanted on drug, gun and stolen car charges.

An anonymous caller reported Hampton was at a self storage unit in Blanco, NM at about 4 p.m. on Thursday November 1<sup>st</sup>. When officers arrived at the storage unit Hampton ran to the river and jumped into the 40-45 degree water. He floated down stream for about 40 minutes and then tried to get out of the river and run away. Officers from San Juan sheriff's department, Bloomfield, Farmington and State Police easily captured Hampton. He couldn't move quickly because his legs cramped and seemed to be suffering from the initial stages of hypothermia.

Hampton was treated by paramedics of the Blanco Volunteer Fire Department. He was then transported to San Juan Regional Medical Center. After being treated at the hospital, he was taken to the San Juan County Detention Center and booked on the warrants along with several additional felony charges from this incident.

Hampton was wanted for a warrant issued by the New Mexico State Police for: Trafficking a Controlled substance (crack cocaine), Trafficking a Controlled Substance (methamphetamine), Distribution of Marijuana, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Aggravated Fleeing a Law Enforcement Officer, Possession of a firearm by a felon, Unlawful Taking of a Motor Vehicle, Reckless Driving and Driving with a Suspended Drivers License.

State Police officers also recovered 6.2 grams of methamphetamine from his pants pockets. State Police divers recovered his shirt from the river which contained \$1285 in cash and a crack smoking pipe, and a loaded firearm was discovered in Hampton's vehicle at the storage facility.

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