



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
Taxation and Revenue Department
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DIVISIONS

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Property Tax
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Tax Fraud Investigations
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New Mexico Ranked Sixth in the Nation for Organ Donor Registration Rates

MVD receives Silver Medal for Exceeding National Criteria

ALBUQUERQUE - New Mexico has been ranked sixth in the nation for registering individuals to be organ, tissue and eye donors at the New Mexico Motor Vehicle Division, according to New Mexico Donor Services.

The State of New Mexico was awarded a Silver Medal for Donor Designations by Donate Life America, the national organization working with every state to increase donor registrations and save lives. New Mexico exceeded four out of five donor designation criteria in 2010 – over 50 percent donor designation rate, the rate at which individuals join the state registry, and over 40 percent organ, tissue and eye donors authorized by the state registry.

“This accomplishment is a testament to all the hard work and effort MVD and New Mexico Donor Services have put in to educating New Mexicans about the importance of organ donation. New Mexicans have responded with overwhelming enthusiasm and continue to do so in helping those in need of organ donations. This also is an accomplishment all New Mexicans can be proud of” said Demesia Padilla, Cabinet Secretary for the State Taxation and Revenue Department that oversees MVD.

Currently, 98 percent of individuals who register to be donors do so at the MVD when obtaining a driver’s license or ID card. “We appreciate the efforts of MVD employees who are making sure that every driver’s license applicant is asked if they wish to be an organ donor,” said Patricia Tencza, Executive Director of New Mexico Donor Services. “New Mexicans are making a life-saving decision when they register to be a donor at MVD.”

MVD has partnered with New Mexico Donor Services and the New Mexico Lions Eye Bank since 1978, by providing New Mexicans the opportunity to register as organ, tissue and eye donors. In 2009 MVD partnered

with New Mexico Donor Services to establish an online Donate Life New Mexico Donor Registry at www.NMdonor.org. New Mexicans can become an organ donor by signing up online, or while obtaining a new driver's license or renewing an existing one at any MVD office.

New Mexico Donor Services is a private, non-profit agency facilitating organ and tissue donation in New Mexico. New Mexico Donor Services and the New Mexico Motor Vehicle Division partner in the administration of the Donate Life New Mexico Organ and Tissue Donor Registry. For more information about the Registry in New Mexico, the process and how donation saves and improves lives, visit: www.NMdonor.org.

New Mexico Donor Services is a division of the DCI Donor Services, Inc. family of organizations which includes DCI Donor Services Tissue Bank, DCI Donor Services Eye Banks and organ and tissue procurement organizations in California and Tennessee.