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**New Mexico’s Drive Insured Program
 Continues to reduce State’s Uninsured Rate**

April 1, 2003

Even before the second phase of New Mexico’s Motor Vehicle Division’s (MVD) Drive Insured program kicked off April 1st – the state’s uninsured rate had dropped from a national high of 33.02 percent to 24.69 percent – because of the first phase of the campaign, which began back in December.

“The response to MVD’s Drive Insured program has been phenomenal,” said Jan Goodwin, Secretary of Taxation and Revenue, “New Mexicans are responding and supporting the department’s goal of reducing the state’s uninsured rate. New Mexicans understand that when you drive insured everyone wins.”

On April 1, 2003, MVD began sending out 10,000 letters a week to over 380,000 motorists whose vehicles have been identified as uninsured. Recipients will have 30 days to respond or risk suspension of their registration, Goodwin said.

Since the Drive Insured program began, New Mexico’s uninsured rate dropped from a national high of 33.02 % to 24.69%. To date 100,000 vehicles have been identified as insured because of the program. Based on the early success of the program, MVD expects to reduce New Mexico’s uninsured rate to well below the national average of 14% within the next two years.

Motor Vehicle Division’s Drive Insured program reduces New Mexico’s uninsured motorist rate.

Prior to Drive Insured – Dec. 01, 2002		As of April 1, 2003	
Total Vehicles	1,589,920	Total Vehicles	1,566,147
Insured Vehicles	1,064,935	Insured Vehicles	1,179,532
Unknown Vehicles	524,985	Unknown Vehicles	386,615
Insured Rate	66.98 %	Insured Rate	75.31 %
Uninsured Rate	33.02%	Uninsured Rate	24.69%