Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor Michael R. Sandoval, Cabinet Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NMDOT and UBER partner to make the roads safer for the holidays

Program funded through GHSA grant

SANTA FE – The New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) is partnering with the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) and Uber to offer safe rides throughout New Mexico during the holidays. The NMDOT's Traffic Safety Division received a grant from GHSA to fund the rides through UBER.

"The NMDOT has similar sober ride programs, but this is the first where the rides are offered statewide," said Transportation Secretary Mike Sandoval. "Holiday events coincide with an increase in alcohol related crashes, but the danger has gone up significantly over the past year. Drunk and drug-impaired driving increased during the pandemic and as parties and gatherings resume, there are even more opportunities for impaired driving this holiday season. There is no excuse for driving under the influence. Get a safe ride home."

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), nearly 30 people die in drunk driving crashes every day in the United States. That's one person every 48 minutes. Drunk driving crashes claim more than 10,000 lives per year. The state Traffic Safety Division reports so far this year 100 people have been killed in alcohol-involved crashes in New Mexico.

The Uber rides will be available from Tuesday, Nov. 23, 2021, through Friday, Jan. 3, 2022, and will include a \$15 Uber credit and does not include tip. The ride code is **ENDWI2021**. The rides will be offered anywhere Uber service is available in the state focusing on the Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Eve holidays.

NMDOT *Mobility for everyone*

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