

MVD Procedural Quick Update

#37

RE: Organ Donor Signature
Effective date: Immediate

Date: August 20, 2007
To: All MVD
From: Mac Lewis, MVD Policy and Procedures Manager

[This is the latest in a series of procedural updates. These updates deal with specific MVD procedures and practices. Managers and Supervisors should consistently distribute the updates to all personnel and integrate them into regular information and training sessions.]

Effective July 1, 2007, the age below which the signature of a parent or guardian is required when a minor elects organ donor status on his or her application for a driver's license, permit or ID is reduced from sixteen (16) to fifteen (15).

House Bill 1276 revises the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act to provide that:

1. an organ donor may be a minor who is eligible to apply for an instruction permit because he is at least 15 years old; that
2. a donor may make an anatomical gift by authorizing a statement or symbol indicating that the donor has made an anatomical gift to be imprinted on the donor's driver's license or identification card; and that
3. the signature of a parent or guardian is only required on a minor's driver's license application election to be an organ donor if the minor is under 15 years of age.

If a minor applicant for a driver's license, permit or ID is younger than 15, and is not emancipated, the minor may not make an anatomical gift. However, the minor applicant's parent or legal guardian may elect organ donor status for the minor by signing the election as parent or guardian on the license application.

The driver's license application will be changed when the form is next reprinted. In the meantime, MVD agents are directed to require a parent's or guardian's signature on the organ donor election only when the minor applicant is under 15, not (as is currently indicated on the application form) when the applicant is under 16.

Field office managers and supervisors should refer any comments or questions regarding this Procedural Quick Update to their Bureau Chiefs, with cc to mac.lewis@state.nm.us. Others are encouraged to direct comments or questions directly to Mac Lewis, MVD Policy and Procedure Manager, at mac.lewis@state.nm.us.
