MVD Procedural Quick Update #76

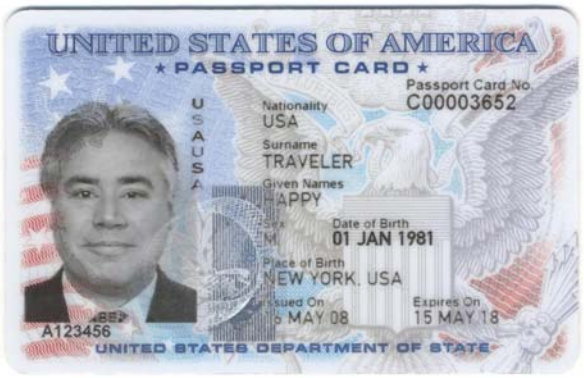
RE: **New United States Passport Card**
Effective date: **Immediate**

Date: October 3, 2008
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.*]

The Department of State is now issuing a new "U.S. Passport Card" that may be accepted as proof of an applicant's identity and (for CDL applicants) as proof of United States citizenship.

The Department of State is now issuing the new U.S. Passport Card (shown below) in response to the needs of border resident communities for a less expensive and more portable alternative to the traditional passport book. The card has the same period of validity as a passport book: 10 years for an adult, five for children 15 and younger.



The passport card facilitates entry and expedites document processing at U.S. land and sea ports-of-entry when arriving from Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean and Bermuda. It may not be used to travel by air. Otherwise, it carries the same rights and privileges as a U.S. passport book.

For non-commercial license and ID applicants, the passport card meets MVD's proof-of-identity requirements as a photo identification card issued by the U.S. government. For CDL applicants, the passport card can also serve as proof of U.S. citizenship.

Additional information about the new passport card is available at the Department of State's web site at http://travel.state.gov/passport/ppt_card/ppt_card_3926.html.

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 by phone to (888) 683-4636.