



New Mexico

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NEWS

Release

**KEEP NEW MEXICO'S ROADS SAFE THIS THANKSGIVING-
DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE**

(Albuquerque, New Mexico - November 14, 2006) - Give your friends and family another reason to be thankful this Thanksgiving holiday - don't drink and drive, says AAA New Mexico.

"With so many options available, there is no excuse for anyone to drink and drive," says Jeannie Chavez, AAA New Mexico's spokeswoman. "Anyone who is too drunk to drive can call a sober friend or family member, designate a driver, arrange to spend the night or use a service such as Topsy Tow."

According to the New Mexico State Department of Transportation's Traffic Safety Bureau, 446 crashes occurred in 2004 during the Thanksgiving holiday, 49 more than in 2003. There were 215 injuries and seven deaths attributed to traffic crashes in 2004 during the holiday.

"The winter holidays continue to be deadly in New Mexico, and we want people to be aware of the high-crash risk associated with drinking and driving," says Chavez.

This Thanksgiving, AAA New Mexico's Topsy Tow will be available in Albuquerque, Alamogordo, Anthony, Bernalillo, Carlsbad, Continental Divide, Cuba, Deming, Edgewood, Espanola, Farmington, Ft. Sumner, Gallup, Las Cruces, Las Vegas, Rio Rancho, Roswell, Santa Fe, Santa Rosa, Silver City, Socorro, Truth or Consequences and Tucumcari.

Topsy Tow service begins at 6 p.m., on Wednesday, November 22, and ends at 11:59 p.m., on Sunday, November 26. Anyone requesting Topsy Tow may call 1-800-AAA-HELP. The service is provided free of charge within a 10-mile radius from the pick up point, and is restricted to a one-way ride home. The vehicle is towed and up to two people can ride with the tow truck driver. The person needing a free tow does not need to be an AAA member.

AAA New Mexico, LLC, a member of the AAA federation of motor clubs provides members with roadside assistance, insurance and financial products, a full-service travel agency, auto-related services, traffic safety programs and legislative advocacy. Information about these products and services is available on AAA New Mexico's web site at www.aaa.com.

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