



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

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Governor Bill Richardson names task force to Study ignition interlocks

Albuquerque - Governor Bill Richardson today announced the appointment of a 25-member task force that will study the use of ignition interlock devices and other technology to use in New Mexico's battle against drunk driving.

"We must consider innovative, new technology as we consider ways to cut down on deadly DWI accidents," Governor Bill Richardson said. "We've done that already by requiring ignition interlock devices on vehicles driven by repeat drunk drivers.

"Today, I'm announcing the creation of the Governor's Task Force on Ignition Interlock Technology and Deployment, which I have created by Executive Order. As I said at the conclusion of the legislation session, I'm looking for concrete ideas to take to the Legislature in 2005."

Here's what Governor Richardson is asking the Task Force to do:

1. Study existing and potential interlock devices and any other technologies to combat DWI. I want to know what other cities and states are doing.
1. Study existing interlock laws and recommend strategies for New Mexico courts to effectively implement and use interlock devices.
2. Study the cost, effectiveness, legal and public-policy issues surrounding broad use of interlock devices. I want to know if this is possible, or even desirable by the general public.

The task force will deliver a report with findings and recommendations to me by December 1st, so I can consider legislation for the 2005 session.

Governor Richardson appointed the following people to serve on the task force:

Legislative Members:

- Rep. Kenny Martinez - Chair
- Sen. Kent Cravens
- Rep. Joseph Cervantes

Governor's Office

- Governor's Criminal Justice Advisor - Robert Schwartz

Industry Representatives:

- Robert Strassberger - Automobile Manufacturers Alliance (Washington DC)
- Charles R. Henson, President - NM Automotive Dealers Association
- R.E. Thompson, Attorney - Lobbyist for Automobile Association

Interlock Industry Representatives:

- Richard Roth, Ignition Interlock Company

State Agency Representatives:

- Fern Goodwin, Administrative Office of the Courts
- Rebecca Montoya, Department of Transportation

Law Enforcement Representatives:

- Major Randy Bertram, Department of Public Safety
- Greg Salano, Sheriff, Santa Fe County

Criminal Justice Representatives:

- John Bigelow, Chief Public Defender
- Lemuel Martinez, President, DA Association
- Matt Sandoval, DA, San Miguel County
- Suzanna Martinez, DA, Dona Ana County

Public Member Representatives:

- Terry Huertaz, President, MADD
- Linda Atkinson, DWI Resource Center
- Peter Simonson, Executive Director, ACLU
- Kelly Roberts, Victim's Advocate
- Lisa Enfield, Attorney, Albuquerque
- Randy McGinn, Attorney, Albuquerque
- Carmen Garza, Attonrey, Las Cruces

Technology Representatives:

- J. Lenny Martinez, Sandia Labs

- Denny Erickson, LANL

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