

N.M. 2 dedicated as “Mike Smith Highway”

SOURCE: NMDOT

DEXTER – A dedication ceremony was held recently at Eastern New Mexico Fair Grounds dedicating N.M. 2 as the “Mike Smith Highway.” Representative Candy Ezzell, Chaves County Commissioner William Cavin, Municipality Representatives from Dexter, Hagerman, and Lake Arthur were all in favor of the name designation of the highway.

The New Mexico State Transportation Commission met this month and passed a resolution to name the N.M. 2 route in Chaves County as the “Mike Smith Highway.”

State Transportation Commission Bruce Ellis said, “We are honored to name one of our highways after such an outstanding individual like Mike Smith.”

Mike Smith, a native of Dexter, NM, is one of the leading riders in U.S. Thoroughbred racing since the early 1990s, was inducted into the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame in 2003, and has won the most Breeders’ Cup races of any jockey with 26 Breeders’ Cup wins. In 2018, Smith rode Justify to win the Triple Crown.

The “Mike Smith Highway” signs will go up along the N.M. 2 corridor in Chaves County.



Chaves County Commissioner T. Calder Ezzell Jr. gives Mike Smith a sign after they named a highway after him Tuesday night. (David Rocha Photo)

SOURCE: <https://www.rdrnews.com/2020/02/19/dexter-drops-highway-on-mike-smith/>



Stay Cool on the Road – Do Your Part to End Road Rage

SOURCE: [HTTPS://WWW.CNN.COM/2019/09/10/HEALTH/ROAD-RAGE-SURVIVAL-TIPS-WELLNESS/INDEX.HTML](https://www.cnn.com/2019/09/10/HEALTH/ROAD-RAGE-SURVIVAL-TIPS-WELLNESS/INDEX.HTML)

Road rage is on the rise and has been for years. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, fatal car crashes linked to aggressive driving climbed nearly 500% in 10 years. And nearly 80% of drivers expressed anger, aggression, or road rage behind the wheel at least once in the past year. New Mexicans are no different. There have been several road rage incidents in New Mexico recently.

So how do we combat road rage? Here are some ways you can help prevent road rage incidents and how you can respond if you’re involved in a road rage incident.

Preventing Road Rage

Preventing road rage starts with you, experts say. Here are some things you can do to prevent causing a road rage incident.

Reduce your own stress

- Take time to prepare for your day the night before. That way you’re not pressed for time or running late in the morning.

Be a courteous driver

- Don’t assume you have the right of way. Be aware of what you are doing on the road and remember the rules of the road.
- Don’t drive distracted. Never check your phone or take calls on the road. It can wait.

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Be on the Lookout for Knockoff Car Seats

Many of the seats are made from inferior materials and are missing important safety features, like the harness chest clip.

If you have any questions about whether a seat is genuine, go straight to the manufacturer. A genuine manufacturer will be easy to contact and want to help. In fact, MiFold and Doona both discovered their first knockoffs when customers contacted them to ask whether the good deals they were seeing were the real thing.

Car-crash injuries remain a leading cause of death among children in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, but many of these can be prevented by restraining children correctly. But a number of knockoff car seats are hitting the market. These seats, often sold by a third party on websites such as Amazon, Walmart, Ali Express, and Ebay, are not safe to use and have not been crash tested. Many of the seats are made from inferior materials and are missing important safety features, like the harness chest clip. To ensure you are purchasing a car seat that meets federal safety requirements, follow these tips:

Buy in person.

This is the best way to ensure you're getting the car seat you intended. It will involve lugging home a massive box and won't necessarily be the best deal, but going to a retail store helps ensure the product you're buying was bought directly from the manufacturer.

If you're buying online, ask the following questions:

- Does the manufacturer have a website you can find easily?
- Is the car seat on the American Academy of Pediatrics list? It lists only seats that meet federal motor vehicle safety standards and are approved for use in the United States.
- Does the deal seem too good to be true? If so, there's a good chance you're looking at a knockoff.
- Is it being sold directly by a trusted retailer? Stores such as Target, Buy Buy Baby and Nordstrom sell only certified seats directly from the manufacturer. With other online sites, such as Amazon and Walmart, be absolutely sure the seller is not a third party and the seats are being sold directly by the manufacturer or the site itself.

If you already have the car seat or booster, ask yourself the following:

- Is there a label with this required wording? "The child restraint system conforms to all applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards."
- Is the brand stamped on the seat itself? Most knockoffs don't use the genuine brand name. Some don't include any brand at all.
- Did it come with clear instructions?
- Is there a model number, customer-service number and manufacture date printed on it?
- Did it come with a registration card to send back to the manufacturer? All car seats sold in the United States are required to come with one so the manufacturer can contact you in case of recall.
- Are there clear labels on the seat that indicate its use and correct installation?

For more information, [CLICK HERE](#)



Due to ongoing updates to the calendar of events, please **CLICK HERE** or visit www.safernm.org for the most current list.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January Drunk Busters

- Nov 8-Jan 4 Superblitz: ENDWI and BKLUP
- Dec 13 Don't Shatter the Dream: National Native
-Jan 1 American Holiday DWI Crackdown
- 4 Child Safety Seat Clinic, ROSWELL
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Superior Ambulance
115 E. County Club
- 11 Child Safety Seat Clinic, ROSWELL
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Superior Ambulance
115 E. County Club
- 16 Transportation Commission Meeting, ESPAÑOLA, NM

February

- 7 Selective Traffic Enforcement Program Training (STEP), GALLUP
- 12 Transportation Day at the Roundhouse
- 13 Transportation Commission Meeting, via TELECONFERENCE
- 15 Child Safety Seat Clinic, ROSWELL
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Superior Ambulance
115 E. County Club

March

- 4-5 Buckle Up New Mexico Now Recertification Training: ALBUQUERQUE
- 13-21 Mini Superblitz: ENDWI and BKLUP
- 13 DWI Checkpoint Operation Training: RIO RANCHO
- 14 Child Safety Seat Clinic, ROSWELL
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Superior Ambulance
115 E. County Club
- 15-17 Lifesavers National Conference: TAMPA, FL
- 19 Transportation Commission Meeting, via TELECONFERENCE

Buckle Up
New Mexico
RECERTIFICATION
TRAINING

**MAR 4-5
2020**

THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO:

- Get the CEUs and seat sign-offs you need to maintain your certification
- Get hands-on practice and learn from CPS Instructors and fellow technicians
- An interactive session featuring car seat manufacturer safety enhancements
- Meet and network with other technicians

Safe
Ride
Home

Fitting Stations offer child safety seat inspection appointments during regular hours of operation at TEN permanent New Mexico locations.

Alamogordo Third Saturday of each month	(505) 439-4300
Albuquerque: NE 2nd Friday of each month	(505) 856-6143
Albuquerque: SW Third Thursday of each month	(505) 856-6143
Albuquerque: Central First Friday of each month	(505) 272-6024
Carlsbad Third Thursday of each month	(800) 231-6145
Deming First Wednesday of each month	(575) 546-9254
Farmington Third Saturday of each month	(800) 231-6145
Las Cruces First Wednesday of each month	(800) 231-6145
Rio Rancho First Friday of each month	(800) 231-6145
Santa Fe 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month	(505) 471-3965 (800) 231-6145



THIS YEAR'S SESSIONS FEATURE:

- Keynote address by Ben Hoffman, MD, CPSTI
- An update of NHTSA's new CPST curriculum
- The latest research in car seat misuse and best practices
- CPS Bootcamp & much more!

To Register, **CLICK HERE**



New Mexico LEL featured in National LEL Newsletter

Central Region Law Enforcement Liaison Karl Wiese was recently featured in the National LEL Newsletter. In his interview, Karl discusses why he became an LEL and what he enjoys about the work. To read the full interview,

[CLICK HERE](#)

"I now work closely with dedicated police officers, and I sincerely believe that together we save lives."

Law Enforcement Coordinator's Symposium Registration Open

Registration for the 2019 Law Enforcement Coordinators' Symposium (LECS) is now open. The LECS will be held May 6-7, 2020, at the Sandia Resort in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Registration for this symposium is limited to representatives from New Mexico Law Enforcement agencies participating in ENDWI, BKLUP/CIOT, DNTXT, STEP, 100 Days and Nights of Summer, and any other NMDOT-TSD sponsored programs. The LECS also provides law enforcement representatives the opportunity to obtain current program information, legal updates, and the newest trends in traffic safety.

[FOR MORE INFORMATION, AND TO COMPLETE THE ONLINE APPLICATION:](#)

[CLICK HERE](#)

ENDROADRAGE

Stay Cool on the Road – Do Your Part to End Road Rage

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- Don't drive at night behind another vehicle with your high-beam headlights on, and be sure to always return to low-beam headlights as soon as you detect an oncoming vehicle.

Never escalate

- You can't control the behavior or driving habits of others. If someone cuts you off, assume it was an accident and don't take it personally.

Responding to an Aggressive Driver

There may be times when you've done all you can to prevent an incident, but you find yourself the victim of road rage. Here are some key steps to take:

Don't React

- Don't gesture or yell in your vehicle at another driver.
- Avoid eye contact with both the aggressive driver and any passengers.

Protect Yourself

- Slow down and separate yourself from the aggressive driver.
- If the aggressive driver is following you, try to drive at a normal speed and don't stop unless you have to.
- Don't get out of your car or roll down your window.
- If you continue to feel threatened, drive to a busy public place and honk your horn.
- If you still don't feel safe call 911 and drive to a police station.