



Susana Martinez
Governor

Tom Church
Cabinet Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 9, 2018

MEDIA CONTACT:

Emilee Cantrell
(505) 469-8243 or Emilee.cantrell2@state.nm.us

NMDOT Encourages Safe Driving Through Work Zones

Department Participates in National Work Zone Awareness Week April 9-13

Santa Fe, NM – Today, the New Mexico Department of Transportation is reminding motorists to drive safely in work zones in coordination with National Work Zone Awareness Week, April 9-13. This also serves as a reminder that road projects across the state will start ramping up as the weather warms up.

“Our Department knows first-hand how devastating work zone crashes can be,” said NMDOT Secretary Tom Church. “We always want to encourage safe driving – especially in work zones – because it can save lives.”

In 2016, two NMDOT employees, David Eggert and Anthony Rivera, were tragically killed in a work zone crash.

From 2011 through 2016, there were 23 fatal crashes reported in work zones in New Mexico and a total of 3,149 crashes reported in work zones. According to the Federal Highway Administration, in 2016 there were a total of 765 work zone fatalities nationally.

When driving through a work zone remember:

- Reduce speed.
- Put down the cell phone.
- Seek an alternate route or leave early if there will be construction.
- Look for workers, construction equipment, bicyclists, pedestrians, and other motorists.
- Be patient.

For more information on National Work Zone Awareness Week please visit the FHWA website [here](#). Also, there is a national effort to wear orange on Wednesday, April 11 to support work zone safety. Please check NMDOT’s road advisory website, <http://nmroads.com/>, for updates to road projects and closures.

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