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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**NMDOT and Safer New Mexico Now to Host Child Safety Seat Clinic**

**Albuquerque, NM** – The New Mexico Department of Transportation and Safer New Mexico Now will host a Child Safety Seat Clinic on Wednesday, March 14, 2018, from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Sandia Resort in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The Sandia Resort is located at 30 Rainbow Road, near the intersection of Tramway Boulevard and Interstate 25. The clinic will take place in the southeast parking lot between C6 and C8.

The clinic provides parents and caregivers the opportunity to receive “hands-on” instruction from certified child passenger safety technicians. Technicians will educate parents on selecting and installing the appropriate child safety seat for their child and vehicle. Technicians can also determine if a seat is recalled, expired, or otherwise unsafe.

The clinic is a public service that is funded by the New Mexico Department of Transportation and is available to everyone. There is no charge for the service but appointments are encouraged. Parents will need to bring the child safety seat, and if possible, the child. For an appointment, please call (505) 856-6143.

The clinic is being held in conjunction with the annual Buckle Up New Mexico Recertification Training Conference. The two-day event brings local, State, and National Child Passenger Safety experts together to provide industry best practices and education to support traffic safety and occupant protection programs throughout New Mexico.

The conference provides technicians the opportunity to learn about important topics related to child safety seats and traffic safety, including addressing the misuse of tether straps. Many child safety seat manufacturers recommend the use of tether straps to prevent child safety seats from moving around in a crash, which could save a life. However, half of seats are installed without a tether, or it is used incorrectly. Several child safety seat manufactures are beginning to require tether use and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has proposed regulatory changes to require all vehicle manufactures to allow tether use for child safety seats.

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