



# MEDIA RELEASE

## Bureau of Motor Vehicles

Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles • Mike Rankin, Registrar  
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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## NEW SWIPE TO DONATE LIFE APPLICATION NOW AVAILABLE

**COLUMBUS** – Ohio will be only the second state in the nation to be able to register donors directly from the driver license through a new application called “Swipe to Donate Life.”

While most Ohioans register as organ donors at the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV), many are not prepared to make the decision and seek other opportunities to have questions answered before registering. Outside of the BMV or online, the current method to register as an organ, tissue and/or eye donor entails providing the potential donor with a paper form, which they either fill out onsite or take home and then mail to the BMV. In the field, this process has proved time-consuming and lacking the security needed to safeguard an individual’s personal information. With this in mind, Donate Life Ohio recently inquired about utilizing technology that would allow the potential registrant to swipe the magnetic strip on his or her driver license or identification card on a mobile computing device and auto-populate the donor registration form. The registrant could then affirm wishes for donation and send it immediately and securely to the BMV through an internet connection.

“The Department is proud of its partnership with Donate Life and to have created this innovative app,” said ODPS Director John Born. “The app will expedite the registration process and ensure a secure transfer of the individual’s information.”

The app is supported on mobile tablets provided by the Second Chance Trust Fund (within the Ohio Department of Health) to the state’s organ, eye and tissue recovery agencies. In addition to the DL or ID, the registrant will authenticate his or her identity with the last four digits of his or her social security number and then proceed to register as a full donor or a donor with specific restrictions before submitting directly to the Registry database at the BMV. The app is also designed with the ability to cancel the registration process at any time. After the registration is completed, the individual can access his or her own registration through BMV online services at any time to make changes or remove him or her from the registry.

“We are grateful to the Ohio Department of Public Safety for developing this ground-breaking tool,” says Marilyn Pongonis, state team leader for Donate Life Ohio. “Not only will this app make the registration process quick and easy, but Ohioans who register outside the BMV can feel confident that their decision to donate is being recorded and delivered securely.”

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