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To:

Date: 1/29/2004 11:18:05 AM

Subject: E-Release - Gov. Sanford Thanks DMV Workers, Joins in Unveiling New Initiatives

Attachments: NR - b012904 - DMV Thanks, New Initiatives.doc

NR - b012904 - DMV Fact Sheet.doc

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
MARK SANFORD, GOVERNOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Gov. Sanford Thanks DMV Workers, Joins in Unveiling New Initiatives
GOVERNOR CALLS DMV "CASE STUDY FOR
GOVERNMENT RESTRUCTURING"

Columbia, S.C. - January 29, 2004 - Governor Mark Sanford today joined with Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Director Designate Marcia Adams, State Rep. Ronnie Townsend and JT Gandolfo, the governor's special liaison to the DMV, to praise DMV employees for their part in making the agency more efficient, accountable and customer-friendly. The governor - who has made DMV reform one of the top priorities of his administration - also oversaw the unveiling of several new DMV initiatives designed to continue the agency's efforts.

"The average wait time at a DMV office in South Carolina was 66 minutes back in September of 2002," said Gov. Sanford. "We're pleased to say that wait time average is now down to 15 minutes - a 77% reduction. That's a serious quality of life advancement for a whole lot of folks in South Carolina - folks who now get to spend that time with their families as opposed to standing in line at the DMV. This is a case study for government restructuring and for the accountability you add by putting executive agencies within the governor's Cabinet."

DMV Director Designate Marcia Adams also unveiled the latest DMV pilot initiatives, including a) Electronic Vehicle Registration (EVR), b) the DMV/Department of Education beginner permit partnership, c) expanded commercial driver's license availability and motor carrier services, d) a new insurance interface system, e) county vehicle registration, and f) additional online transactions (please see attached fact sheet for details).

"This governor has set an example of efficiency and innovation for state government that we at the DMV are continually looking to expand upon and improve," said Director Designate Marcia Adams. "The support we have received from Gov. Sanford and the gratitude and encouragement he has shown to these employees is a tremendous motivation. He is a hundred percent behind helping us reach our goals of better, faster, friendlier and more accurate service, and we're excited about the impact of these new initiatives on those goals."

"The initiatives taking place at the DMV today are simply evidence of what can be done when the governor, the legislature, government agencies, and private entities work together to improve the quality of life for South Carolina's citizens," said State Rep. Ronnie Townsend, whose efforts in the House were instrumental in passing the comprehensive DMV reform bill Gov. Sanford signed in June of last year.

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