

MEMORANDUM

TO: All EMS and Fire Services that practice emergency medicine

FR: EMS Licensing Commission

DATE: February 9, 2009

RE: Interlock Ignition devices

It has come to the attention of the EMS Licensing Commission that there has been an influx of DUI/DWI cases. As part of these cases, individuals who have been convicted or whose license status has changed because of these offenses have been sentenced to having an ignition interlock device installed on their personal vehicles, as a part of their rehabilitation. Please be aware that individuals under this order are only to drive a specific vehicle with an interlock device installed.

New Mexico Law (6/17/05) requires 1 year of interlock for first offenders, 2 years for second offenders, 3 years for third offenders, and lifetime (with 5 year review) for 4 or more convictions. Further, individuals who have a DWI arrest that results in a revoked license (Implied Consent Violation) are *eligible* to be ordered to install an interlock device. Interlock licenses are not issued for operating commercial vehicles. An applicant must provide a list of vehicles to be operated by the applicant and proof that an approved and functioning ignition interlock device is installed on each listed vehicle.

The EMS Licensing Commission is asking all services to review their employee & volunteer driving records to make sure that you do not have individuals driving emergency vehicles who are under an order not to drive with or without the requirement of an ignition interlock device. Thank you for your attention to his matter.