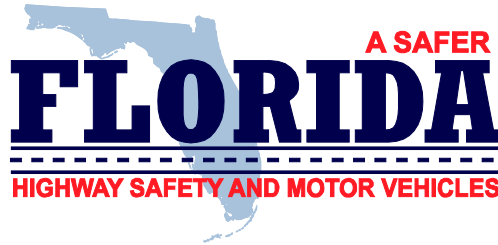


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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **EMERGENCY CONTACT REGISTRATION REACHES 3 MILLION**

*~ Award-winning program helps law enforcement contact loved ones faster ~*

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** – If you were in a car accident, would law enforcement officers know how to quickly contact your loved ones? The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles' Emergency Contact Information program is a tool that law enforcement can use to do just that. The award-winning program has reached a new milestone with 3 million Floridians taking advantage of the service. The system allows licensed drivers and identification card holders to submit two contacts to notify in the event of an emergency, such as a vehicle crash. The information can then be accessed only by law enforcement officers to find designated contacts in the case of an emergency.

"The Department is very proud to offer this free service to Florida residents," said DHSMV Executive Director Julie L. Jones. "While 3 million Floridians have registered their contacts, millions more could be taking advantage of this nationally recognized service that provides a tremendous peace of mind. Our goal is for all Florida drivers and ID card holders to register their emergency contact information."

Registration is quick and convenient. It can be completed in a State or Tax Collector operated driver license office or from the convenience of home or at work through the Internet at [www.flhsmv.gov/eci](http://www.flhsmv.gov/eci). There is no cost to register your contact information.

The concept for the ECI program came about after the tragic death of Tiffiany Olson who died in a motorcycle crash in 2005. Law enforcement officials did not have any contact information to timely notify her mother Christine Olson of the crash that led to her daughter's death. Christine Olson founded *TIFF's (To Inform Families First) Initiative*, and with the help of her local lawmaker, State Rep. Bill Galvano, brought an idea to the Department to allow people to register and law enforcement to access emergency contacts so that other families might receive quick notification.

The ECI program began in 2006 and has garnered national recognition. Last year, the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University named the ECI program one of the nation's top 50 most innovative government programs, and Gov. Charlie Crist proclaimed Oct. 4-10 as *Register Your Emergency Contact Information Week* in Florida.

The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles provides highway safety and security through excellence in service, education and enforcement. The Department is leading the way to a safer Florida through the efficient and professional execution of its core mission: the issuance of driver licenses, vehicle tags and titles and operation of the Florida Highway Patrol. To learn more about DHSMV and the services offered, visit [www.flhsmv.gov](http://www.flhsmv.gov).

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