

Bibliography

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The material on this page represents much, but not all, of the source material used in validating the information reported in the *Early New Mexico License Plates* book and the material on this website. The references are grouped into seven categories: Newspaper Articles, Municipal Ordinances, Laws of New Mexico, Registration Records, DMV Publications Describing New Mexico License Plates, Other Publications, Website References.

Newspaper Articles

The references below are from newspapers that were archived on microfilm decades ago. In recent years the microfilm has been digitized and made available online by various organizations, usually as a paid subscription service. Use any of these online newspaper archives to find the referenced articles with the information given below. Occasionally an article not found in one online archive can be found in a different one. In some instances the same story is referenced more than once here, in different newspapers. This has been done because the print quality in many early newspapers is poor and the old microfilm images are not the best, either. Something that may not be readable in one paper, may be more easily read in the same article in a different paper.

The articles are listed chronologically below. On this web page you can also search by key word(s). Type Ctrl F then enter your search string in the search box and use the forward and back arrows to look for additional occurrences of the key word(s). Dates are given as yyyy-mm-dd. The code at the end of each entry tells the page and column number where the article is found in the paper. A hyphen after a page number indicates that the page number is not printed on the original newspaper page.

- 1900-04-30 First Automobile in New Mexico Dr T P Martin brings to Taos - Santa Fe New Mexican 1900-04-30 p1c6
- 1910-08-17 Las Vegas Ordinance licenses described - Las Vegas Daily Optic 1910-08-17 p8c3
- 1910-09-28 Las Vegas autos seen on streets without licenses - Las Vegas Daily Optic 1910-09-28 p8c4
- 1912-10-11 First Issue 1912 plates received from St Louis - Santa Fe New Mexican 1912-10-11 p2c4-5
- 1913-02-11 Willis D Newton ad for Ford automobiles - Rio Grande Republic 1913-02-11 p8c4-5
- 1914-04-07 New Fords to arrive at Willis D Newton dealership - Rio Grande Republic 1914-04-07 p1c1
- 1914-05-15 Mail carrier to Organ has Ford car from Willis D Newton - Rio Grande Republic 1914-05-15 p1c3
- 1914-06-09 Willis D Newton and wife left for three month visit to New York - Rio Grande Republic 1914-06-09 p3c3
- 1914-08-05 Las Cruces car owners reminded of State laws - Rio Grande Republic 1914-08-05 p2c2
- 1914-12-12 Auto club offers reward for sign vandals - Las Vegas Optic -1914-12-12 p1c1
- 1914-12-28 944 applications for 1915 - deadline January 1 - Santa Fe New Mexican 1914-12-28 p5c3
- 1915-01-05 1915 red-on-white plates being delivered to owners - Deadline January 1 - Rio Grande Republic 1915-01-05 p2c2
- 1915-02-03 3087 auto - 334 motorcycle - 79 dealer - plates issued to date - Rio Grande Republic 1915-02-03 p1c1
- 1915-02-19 Fred Hough of Reclamation Service buys Ford from W D Newton - Rio Grande Republic 1915-02-19 p-c3
- 1915-02-23 See Willis D Newton for Dodge Brothers cars - Rio Grande Republic 1915-02-23 p-c3
- 1915-08-17 Number of registrations by county as of July 31 - Santa Fe New Mexican 1915-08-17 p2c1
- 1915-08-27 Willis D Newton went to El Paso this morning to pick up Ford for R W Latta - Rio Grande Republic 1915-08-27 p-c2
- 1915-11-12 Anti-Horse Thief Association adopts automobile tag - Santa Fe New Mexican 15-11-12 p3c2
- 1917-06-28 Forest Service motorcycle in Datil forest - Santa Fe New Mexican 1917-06-28 p-c1
- 1918-06-05 Steel for license plates restricted by Washington DC - Santa Fe New Mexican 1918-06-05 p6c4

1918-12-04 Auto licenses have provided valuable revenue to state - Santa Fe New Mexican 1918-12-04 p6c1
1919-05-19 Instructions on dealer licenses - Santa Fe New Mexican 1919-05-19 p3c3
1919-05-30 Instructions on dealer licenses - Deming Headlight 1919-05-30 p2c2
1919-11-14 New porcelain plates will last for five years - Santa Fe New Mexican 1919-11-14 p5c4
1919-11-21 1920 licenses will cost 50 percent more - Deming Headlight 1919-11-21 p1c3
1919-11-26 1920 porcelain plates ordered weigh 11 1-2 tons - Santa Fe New Mexican 1919-11-26 p6c1
1919-12-11 8 tons of 1920 porcelain plates received by Secretary of State - Gallup Independent 1919-12-11 p1c2
1920-01-02 1920 motor vehicle law effective January 1 - Deming Headlight 1920-01-02 p-c3
1920-11-17 1920 porcelain plates to last 5 years - Roswell Daily Record 1919-11-17 p1c5
1920-12-04 22000 porcelain plates have been issued to date for 1920 - Santa Fe New Mexican 1920-12-04 p3c5
1920-12-24 Cassell Motor Company advertisement - Santa Fe New Mexican 1920-12-24 p4c1
1921-01-15 Porcelain plates expected to reach 30000 by end of year - Santa Fe New Mexican 1921-01-15 p1c2
1921-02-24 Auto license receipts for 1920 increase 100000 over 1919 - Gallup Independent 1921-02-24 p4c1
1921-09-12 WJ McInnes as Cashier certifies Citizens National Bank statement - Roswell Daily Record 1921-09-12 p1c1
1922-05-12 Automobile owners must get their 1922 licenses right away - Deming Headlight 1922-05-12 p-c5
1922-05-24 1922 seals must be attached to plates - Santa Fe New Mexican 1922-05-24 p-c3
1922-12-07 Number of plates issued in 1921 and 1922 - Gallup Independent 1922-12-07 p2c3
1922-12-29 Porcelain plates to be abandoned - numbers issued - Santa Fe New Mexican 1922-12-29 p5c1
1923-03-12 New higher fees for heavy trucks and trailers - Santa Fe New Mexican 1923-03-12 p5c1
1923-03-29 Overview of 1923 law and higher fees for heavy trucks and trailers - Rio Grande Farmer 1923-03-29 p7c2
1923-04-27 Comptroller takes over motor vehicle registration - asks patience with backlogged 1923 seals - Santa Fe New Mexican 1923-04-27 p5c2
1923-05-12 Comptroller behind in processing licenses - Santa Fe New Mexican 1923-05-12 p4c5
1923-06-08 Comptroller and Governor request arrest of those without 1923 licenses - Deming Headlight 1923-06-08 p-c1
1923-06-14 Comptroller and Governor request arrest of those without 1923 licenses - Rio Grande Farmer 1923-06-14 p10c3
1923-07-20 Comptroller and Governor request arrest of those without 1923 licenses - Deming Headlight 1923-07-20 p1c4
1923-07-26 Motor Vehicle Law effective July `1 - Rio Grande Farmer 1923-07-26 p12c3
1923-08-22 Theft of porcelain plate seals - Santa Fe New Mexican 1923-08-22 p5c3
1923-09-01 Pile of steel for 1924 California plates - Santa Fe New Mexican 1923-09-01 p2c5
1923-10-26 Porcelain demise - 1924 plates - colors for autos and taxis - Santa Fe New Mexican 1923-10-26 p2c4
1923-11-15 Must have 1924 plates on by Jan 1 Roswell Daily Record 1923-11-15 p1c5
1924-08-22 Plates ordered for 1925 - colors - Roswell Daily Record 1924-08-22 p-c3
1925-06-03 Driverless Car advertisement - Albuquerque Journal 1925-06-03 p10c5
1925-09-03 Oklahoma Prison makes 1926 NM plates - Indian Journal - Eufaula OK - 1925-09-03 p14c2
1925-12-11 1926 fees for cars trucks motorcycles motor trucks - Gallup Independent - 1925-12-11 p1c6
1926-02-27 Packard ad - O S Emblem dealership - Santa Fe New Mexican 1926-02-27 p2c1
1926-03-29 Colorado penitentiary to make 1927 NM plates (Did not happen though) - Roswell Daily Record 1926-03-29 p4c6
1926-07-30 Gopher Stamp gets bid for 1927 - Commercial Car to be reverse colors - Gallup Independent 1926-07-30 p7c4
1926-12-04 Packard ad - O S Emblem - Santa Fe New Mexican 1926-12-04 p5c1
1927-01-12 Gov Dillon proposes change to license fees Roswell Daily Record 1927-01-12 p1c4
1927-01-12 Gov Dillon proposes change to license fees - CONTINUED Roswell Daily Record 1927-01-12 p2c6
1927-11-07 1928 Number 1 plate to Governor Dillon 01 to Mrs Dillon 2 to Lt Gov Edward Sergent - Santa Fe New Mexican 1927-11-07 p2c3

1927-12-05 1928 plates being issued in county seats - Roswell Daily Record 1927-12-05 p1c2
1927-12-08 W J McInnes and cars for Santa Claus - Roswell Daily Record 1927-12-08 p3c3
1927-12-20 San Miguel county motorists delinquent in obtaining plates - Las Vegas Daily Optic 1927-12-20 p4c1
1927-12-22 MVD thanks East Las Vegas sheriff for enforcing license law - Las Vegas Daily Optic 1927-12-22 p4c1
1928-01-27 1928 will be first time US Official plates are issued - Carlsbad Current-Argus 1928-01-27 p8c3
1928-11-07 Cassell Motor Company ad - Santa Fe New Mexican 1928-11-07 p3c5
1928-12-28 Governor Dillon inauguration 2nd - Santa Fe New Mexican 1926-12-28 p6c4
1929-08-21 Driverless Car advertisement - Albuquerque Journal 1929-08-21 p6c5
1930-01-18 King Trione - representative for Republic Paint Company - recovers from auto wreck - Albuquerque Journal 1930-01-18 p3c3
1930-02-12 W J McInnes named City Treasurer - Roswell Daily Record 1930-02-12 p8c3
1930-04-20 Driverless Car advertisement - Albuquerque Journal 1930-04-20 p2c1
1930-08-04 Gopher Stamp and Die gets contract for 1931 plates - numbers of types given - Clovis Evening News-Journal 1930-08-04 p5c4
1930-10-27 Ad for California Metal Enameling Company - CAMEO - Oakland Tribune 1930-10-27 p21c8
1930-11-29 1931 plates Gov Seligman gets No 1 Lt Gov 2 Dillon 3 and 4 Mrs Dillon 1111 - Las Vegas Daily Optic 1930-11-29 p1c3
1930-11-30 1931 plates Gov Seligman gets No 1 Lt Gov 2 Dillon 3 and 4 Mrs Dillon 1111 - Albuquerque Journal 1930-11-30 p3c1
1931-01-07 Appointment of Fred Gould as Assistant Comptroller - Clovis Evening News-Journal 1931-01-07 p1c4
1931-01-14 Appointment of JM Jake Lujan as Comptroller - Albuquerque Journal 1931-01-14 p3c5
1931-01-20 Graft in Motor Vehicle License Department - Roswell Daily Record 1931-01-20 p1c5
1931-02-17 Sen Edwards says appointment of JM Jake Lujan as Comptroller not lawful - Roswell Daily Record 1931-02-17 p1c5
1931-02-17 Sen Edwards says appointment of JM Jake Lujan as Comptroller not lawful - Roswell Daily Record 1931-02-17 p6c5
1931-07-16 WJ McInnes Talks to Rotarians - Roswell Daily Record 1931-07-16 p1c3
1931-07-23 1932 plates will not have zia - Guest plates to be introduced for 1932 - Clovis Evening News-Journal 1931-07-23 p5c5
1931-09-25 1932 plates to be same color as Texas plates - zia to be used as separator in serial - Roswell Daily Record 1931-09-25 p6c1
1931-10-14 First shipment of 1932 plates received from Shwayder Trunk Co of Colorado - Albuquerque Journal 1931-10-14 p1c7
1931-12-18 First 1932 Guest plate sold to Coloradan - Albuquerque Journal 1931-12-18 p3c4
1932-01-19 Registration certificate holder overpayment - Las Vegas Daily Optic 1932-01-19 p2c1
1932-01-21 Death of Antonio Lucero Jr -First NM motorcycle licensee - El Nuevo Mexicano 1932-01-21 p1c4
1932-02-24 Non-resident salesman must buy Guest plates - Las Vegas Optic - 1932-02-24 p5c3
1932-03-31 W J McInnes Talks at Rotary Club - Roswell Daily Record 1932-03-31 p8c6
1932-04-26 Numbers of different types of plates issued as of April 26 - Santa Fe New Mexican 1932-04-26 p1c3
1932-05-02 Lujan accused of taking bribe for 1932 license plate contract - Las Vegas Daily Optic 1932-05-02 p1c8
1932-05-02 Lujan accused of taking bribe for 1932 license plate contract -- Las Vegas Daily Optic continued 1932-05-02 p2c1
1932-05-02 Gov Seligman orders investigation of Jake Lujan & King Trione in 1932 kickback scandal - Clovis Evening News Journal 1932-05-02 p1c5
1932-05-02 Lujan accused of taking bribe for 1932 license plate contract - Las Vegas Daily Optic 1932-05-02 p1c8
1932-05-02 Lujan accused of taking bribe for 1932 license plate contract - Las Vegas Daily Optic continued 1932-05-02 p2c1
1932-05-02 Lujan accused of taking bribe for 1932 license plate contract - Roswell Daily Record 1932-05-02 p1c6
1932-05-02 Lujan accused of taking bribe for 1932 license plate contract - Roswell Daily Record continued 1932-05-02 p3c3
1932-05-02 Lujan accused of taking bribe for 1932 license plate contract - Santa Fe New Mexican - 1932-05-02 p1c7
1932-05-02 Lujan accused of taking bribe for 1932 license plate contract - Santa Fe New Mexican 1932-05-02 p1c7 continued to 1932-05-02 p6c7
1932-05-18 Attorney General preparing report on 1932 license plate and gadget contracts - Santa Fe New Mexican 1932-05-18 p5c7
1932-06-02 Lujan resigns over 1932 plate scandal - Roswell Daily Record 1932-06-02 p1c1

1932-06-02 Lujan resigns over 1932 plate scandal - Roswell Daily Record continued 1932-06-02 p3c4
1932-06-03 Manuel Gallegos MVD chief replaced - Santa Fe New Mexican 1932-06-03 p1c2
1932-06-09 1932 Registration certificate holders to be distributed - Clovis Evening News-Journal 1932-06-09 p5c7
1932-06-15 MVD finances -Schwayder - etc - Santa Fe New Mexican 1932-06-15 p1c1
1932-06-15 MVD finances -Schwayder - etc - Santa Fe New Mexican continued 1932-06-15 p2c5
1932-06-15 Shortage of money to pay for 1932 plates etc - Las Vegas Daily Optic 1932-06-15 p2c2
1932-06-18 State trying to get refund on 1932 registration certificate holder Gadgets - Las Vegas Daily Optic 1932-06-18 p1c3
1932-06-18 State trying to get refund on 1932 registration certificate holder Gadgets - Roswell Daily Record 1932-06-18 p1c3
1932-07-09 Comptroller demands refund on 1932 registration certificate holders - Roswell Daily Record 1932-07-09 p8c5
1932-07-11 Comptroller demands refund on 1932 registration certificate holders - Roswell Daily Record 1932-07-11 p4c3
1932-07-12 Comptroller demands refund on 1932 registration certificate holders - Las Vegas Daily Optic 1932-07-12 p1c6
1932-07-12 Comptroller demands refund on 1932 registration on certificate holders - Roswell Daily Record 1932-07-12 p8c4
1932-07-14 Comptroller demands refund on 1932 registration on certificate holders - Roswell Daily Record 1932-07-14 p3c4
1932-07-26 Driverless car advertisement - Albuquerque Journal 1932-07-26 p8c7
1932-08-04 State to sue Schwayder for refund of money paid for 1932 certificate holder gadgets - Clovis Evening News Journal 1932-08-04 p1c4
1932-08-20 Comptroller evaluating bids for 1933 plates - horizontal rays on Zia to be same length as vertical rays - Las Vegas Daily Optic 1932-08-20 p3c7
1932-08-21 Comptroller evaluating bids for 1933 plates - horizontal rays on Zia to be same length as vertical rays - Albuquerque Journal 1932-08-21 p10c3
1932-08-30 Gopher stamp and Die gets contract for 1933 plates - Gallup Independent 1932-08-30 p1c2
1932-09-10 Attorney General files suit against Schwayder for refund of money paid for 1932 registration certificate holder gadgets - Clovis Evening News Journal 1932-09-10 p1c3
1932-10-12 McNabb gets plate number 0 for 1933 - Albuquerque Journal 1932-10-12 p6c5
1932-12-28 Five days remaining to buy 1933 plates (January 2 1933 deadline) - Albuquerque Journal 1932-12-28 p15p8c4
1933-09-25 Gov Seligman dies - Clovis Evening News-Journal 1933-09-25 p1c7
1933-11-23 Deadline to buy 1934 plates January 1 1934 - Curry County plate numbers - Clovis Evening News-Journal 1933-11-23 p6c4
1934-11-21 Auto Tags on sale today - Deadline to have 1935 plates on car January 1 - Curry County plate numbers - Clovis Evening News-Journal 1934-11-21 p7c3
1935-06-30 First Auto in Albuquerque - date given is wrong - Albuquerque Journal 1935-06-30 p24c1
1935-10-10 Out of state salesman protests 5 dollar license fee - Albuquerque Journal 1935-10-10 p8c2
1936-01-20 Deadline to buy 1936 license plates is February 15 - Clovis Evening News-Journal 1936-01-20 p1c5
1936-05-09 Bus caught in blizzard at Raton Pass - Albuquerque Journal 1936-05-09 p1c6
1936-05-09 Bus caught in blizzard at Raton Pass - Albuquerque Journal 1936-05-09 CONTINUED p2c3
1936-05-09 Bus caught in blizzard at Raton Pass - Gallup Independent 1936-05-09 p1c4
1936-05-12 Bus caught in blizzard at Raton Pass - Las Vegas Daily Optic 1936-05-12 p4c3
1936-05-25 Zia Book for 1936 to be out soon - Santa Fe New Mexican 1936-05-25 p2c6
1936-06-19 Record plate sales - more in first 5 months than all of last year - Las Vegas Daily Optic 1936-06-19 p4c1
1936-09-23 1937 plates will be Navajo red on turquoise blue - Santa Fe New Mexican 1936-05-23 p1c1
1936-09-23 700 Highway Department plates and 459 state Official plates distributed - Santa Fe New Mexican 1936-09-23 p1c2
1936-09-23 700 Highway Department plates and 459 state Official plates distributed - Santa Fe New Mexican CONTINUED 1936-09-23 p8c5
1937-07-28 Salesman plate fees bring in 15000 dollars - Albuquerque Journal 1937-07-28 p3c5
1937-08-05 Clovis office plate sales increase over previous year - Clovis Evening News-Journal 1937-08-05 p3c3
1937-10-07 Plate sales for state break record - 1938 colors announced - Santa Fe New Mexican 1937-10-07 p1c6
1937-12-18 Carrizozo license fee embezzler pardoned by Gov Tingley - Albuquerque Journal 1937-12-18 p9c2
1937-12-24 Cars and Trucks must be licensed by Jan 1 1938 - Santa Rosa News 1937-12-24 p1c1

1938-05-17 1938 Zia Books to be mailed out - Albuquerque Journal 1938-05-17 p2c1
1938-07-07 250 bicycle license plates ordered for Santa Fe - 174 issued so far - Santa Fe New Mexican 1938-07-07 p11c5
1938-09-20 Third volume of 1938 Zia Book is in the mail - Albuquerque Journal 1938-09-20 p2c2
1938-10-27 Gov Miles favors repeal of Salesmen plate requirement - Clovis News-Journal 1938-10-27 p10c1
1939-02-23 Deadline for license plates is February 28 - Alamogordo News 1939-02-23 p12c3
1939-02-26 License fees for School Busses reduced - Albuquerque Journal 1939-02-26 p14c2
1939-02-26 License fees for School Busses reduced - Clovis News-Journal 1939-02-26 p1c7
1939-03-06 5 dollar fee for Salesman plates repealed - Albuquerque Journal 1939-03-06 p8c2
1939-03-07 Clovis Chamber of Commerce seeks repeal of Salesman fees - Clovis News-Journal 1939-03-07 p8c3 p4 in NA
1939-03-08 House Bill to abolish Salesman license fee - Santa Fe New Mexican 1939-03-08 p5c3
1939-07-17 Bicycle licenses received by Gallup - says to get licenses now - Gallup Independent 1939-07-17 p1c5
1939-09-16 Press Car plates sent out by Gov Miles - Gallup Independent 1939-09-16 p2c7
1939-09-22 1940 plate manufacture started - numbers of each type - Santa Fe New Mexican - 1939-09-22 p1c1
1940-01-13 Peace officers want Zia Book in loose leaf form - Albuquerque Journal 1940-01-13 p2c2
1941-02-28 Licenses will be delinquent if not purchased by Saturday (March 1 1941) - Albuquerque Journal 1937-12-24 p5c6
1941-11-02 Windshield stickers proposed for 1943 - Clovis News-Journal 1941-11-02 p1c2
1942-01-02 Save 1941 plates for scrap drive - Albuquerque Journal 1942-01-02 p2c2
1942-02-24 March 1 is deadline for plates - Legislature changed date from Jan 1 to Mar 1 - Albuquerque Journal 1942-02-24 p6c2
1942-06-24 Decals to replace 1943 plates - design being worked out - Albuquerque Journal 1942-06-24 p8c8
1942-10-13 Bid from Meyercord company accepted for windshield stickers for 1943 - Clovis News-Journal 1942-10-13 p8c3
1942-10-14 Windshield stickers ordered for 1943 - Albuquerque Journal 1942-10-14 p1c7
1942-12-03 Placement of 1943 windshield sticker - Albuquerque Journal 1942-12-03 p1c2
1942-12-12 Exemptions for 1943 stickers - Trailers Motorcycles and Dealers - Albuquerque Journal 1942-12-12 p5c8
1943-01-07 Governor Dempsey to Have Sole Number 1 Tag - Santa Fe New Mexican 1943-01-07 p1c5
1943-02-21 Deadline for 1943 plates (stickers) is March 2 - Albuquerque Journal 1943-02-21 p5c6
1943-08-19 1944 license plate colors might be green on white - Gallup Independent 1943-08-19 p1c4
1943-08-19 Green black and white paint only colors available for 1944 tags - Las Vegas Daily Optic 1943-08-19 p4c3
1943-09-20 State purchasing agent says red and yellow paint available - steel is already at prison for 1944 tags - Hobbs Daily News Sun 1943-09-20 p2c2
1944-02-01 Only one coat of paint on 1944 tags - sales are slow - Gallup Independent 1944-02-01 p1c1
1944-03-03 Deadline for 1944 plates was Thursday (March 2) - Albuquerque Journal 1944-03-03 p6c7
1945-02-05 1945 Truck plate colors are white on red and car plate colors white on blue - Gallup Independent 1945-02-05 p1c3
1945-03-14 Remove 1943 stickers from windshield and put 1945 plate on rear - Santa Fe New Mexican 1945-03-14 p1c3
1945-12-26 Manufacture of 1946 plates begins today - carload of steel has been received - Clovis News Journal 1945-12-26 p3c6
1946-01-09 Staff Officers and their plates explained in detail - Albuquerque Journal 1946-01-09 p1c3
1946-02-28 Bernalillo County Home Defense Unit renamed to Bernalillo County Citizens Unit - Albuquerque Journal 1946-02-28 p3c1
1946-09-17 Windshield stickers to be used for remainder of 1946 - steel unavailable- Gallup Independent 1946-09-17 p4c4
1946-10-25 County numbers for 1947 revealed - Gallup Independent 1946-10-25 p1c5
1946-11-20 1947 plates now on sale - Wrong paint shipped for 1947 plates - plates already painted to be redipped - Gallup Independent 1946-11-20 p1c8
1946-11-21 1947 plates now on sale - Wrong paint shipped for 1947 plates - plates already painted to be redipped - Clovis News-Journal 1946-11-21 p22c3
1946-11-23 Fern Sawyer FERN S "vanity" plate for last several years will not be reissued in 1947 - Santa Fe New Mexican 1946-11-23
1946-11-23 1947 license plates for McKinley County to go on Sale Monday Nov 25 - Gallup Independent 1946-11-23 p1c5

1947-01-07 Staff Officer plates this year have no numbers - Albuquerque Journal 1947-01-07 p4c2
1947-01-31 Staff Officer plates are on the way out - Gallup Independent 1947-01-31 p1c5
1947-03-26 Governor rejects bid by Mora County to renumber counties according to creation date - Carlsbad Current-Argus 1947-03-26 p4
1947-08-27 Bids solicited for plate Envelopes - 158150 for regular vehicles - 1200 for motorcycles - Las Cruces Sun-News 1947-08-27 p5c3
1947-11-14 Delay in production of 1948 plates - blue and white paint shipped from DuPont has not arrived - Albuquerque Journal 1947-11-14 p15c5
1947-12-02 County number assignments for 1948 -- Las Vegas Optic 1947-12-02 p3c3
1947-12-03 County number assignments for 1948 -- Hobbs Daily News-Sun 1947-12-03 p1c4
1947-12-17 No Staff Officer plates in the future - Albuquerque Journal 1947-12-17 p6c1
1948-02-25 Bicycle license plates being issued in Las Cruces - Las Cruces Sun-News 1948-02-25 p2c2
1948-11-12 Want ad for 1918 plate - Las Cruces Sun-News 1948-11-12 p5c3
1949-01-11 Plates to be sent out to distributors next week - Car and Truck colors for 1949 - School Bus - State Official - Dealer - Las Cruces Sun News 1949-01-11
1949-03-18 Los Alamos County established - Santa Rosa News 1949-03-18 p1c4
1949-12-22 Number 2 plate requested for Lt Governor - Las Cruces Sun News 1949-12-22 p1c2
1951-04-11 All 4000 Bicycle license plates have been sold out - awaiting new shipment - Albuquerque Tribune 1951-04-11 p2c8
1951-05-20 Plates for 1952 will be paper stickers - little steel left even for 1951 - Santa Fe New Mexican 1951-05-20 p1c2
1951-07-18 Story of R L Dodson first auto in Albuquerque - has wrong year and other errors - Albuquerque Tribune 1951-07-18 p9c2
1951-08-08 Bids for 260000 windshield stickers solicited for 1952 - Las Vegas Daily Optic 1951-08-08 p1c2
1951-08-09 Paper tags on way out - steel has been ordered to replace 1951 stickers - Santa Fe New Mexican 1951-08-09 p18c5
1951-08-19 Enough steel on hand to finish 1951 plates but bids to be solicited for 260000 windshield stickers for 1952 if more steel not received - Clovis News-Journal 1951-08-19 p7c3
1951-08-30 Motor Vehicle Commissioner confident that enough steel will be available for 1952 - Santa Fe New Mexican 1951-08-30 p1c3
1951-08-30 Stickers for 1952 - Santa Fe New Mexican - 1951-03-22 p16c6
1951-10-09 Las Vegas bicycle license plates available for purchase - Las Vegas Daily Optic 1951-10-09 p1c6
1951-10-28 State police watching for those who have not replaced their 1951 stickers with metal plates - Santa Fe New Mexican 1951-10-28 p3c5
1951-11-01 Removal of THE from slogan for 1952 - plate colors for 1952 - Santa Fe New Mexican 1951-11-01 pB2c4
1951-12-10 Details of fire and damage in prison plate plant - Albuquerque Tribune 1951-12-10 p9c1
1951-12-16 Recovery from fire at plate plant - Santa Fe New Mexican 1951-12-16 p5c6
1951-12-20 Tabs or stickers possible for 1953 - Albuquerque Tribune 1951-12-20 p30c1
1952-01-09 Plate plant resumes production and delivery of 1952 plates after fire - Santa Fe New Mexican 1952-01-09 p12c4
1952-02-03 Plate production and distribution figures for each county - Santa Fe New Mexican 1952-03-02 p5
1952-07-01 1953 plates will be good for 5 years by using tabs - Santa Fe New Mexican 1952-07-01 p1c1
1952-07-02 1953 plates will be good for 5 years by using tabs - Albuquerque Journal 1952-07-02 p7c2
1952-07-15 Cost of prison plate shop fire was 37000 dollars - Albuquerque Tribune 1952-07-15 p22c3
1952-11-23 Movement to repeal Texas auto safety inspection law - Albuquerque Journal 1952-11-23 p4c1
1952-12-31 Drivers licenses - dog licenses - bicycle licenses - on sale for 1953 - auto registration sent by mail to be taken in to office to get plates - Las Cruces Sun-News 1952-12-31 p1c1
1953-02-07 Manufacturer of 1953 legislative plates is Hal Wolfe Screw Machine Products Co - Elimination of Staff Officer in 1947 - Las Vegas Daily Optic - 1953-02-07 p1c3
1953-02-07 Manufacturer of 1953 legislative plates is Hal Wolfe Screw Machine Products Co - Elimination of Staff Officer in 1947 - Las Vegas Daily Optic CONTINUED - 1953-02-07 p6c6
1953-02-08 Manufacturer of 1953 legislative plates is Hal Wolfe Screw Machine Products Co - Elimination of Staff Officer in 1947 - Santa Fe New Mexican - 1953-02-08 p16c1
1953-02-15 Registration renewal form received by mail must be notarized before plates issued - Santa Fe New Mexican 1953-02-15 p22c4
1953-03-05 March 15 is deadline for 1953 bicycle licenses - Las Cruces Sun-News 1953-03-05 p1c8
1953-12-13 Only 15 days before 1954 license deadline - January 1 is deadline for safety inspection stickers - Clovis News Journal 1953-12-13 p1c4 and c7
1954-10-15 1955 types and colors - cars trucks taxis buses trailers house trailers small trailers - Clovis News-Journal 1954-10-15 p2c4

1954-12-12 1955 types and colors - Amateur Radio - Small Trailer - House Trailer - Albuquerque Journal 1954-12-12 p42c6
1955-06-27 State senator refuses special legislative plates - Farmington Daily Times 1955-06-27 p2c2
1955-11-13 1956 drivers Licenses go on sale now - expiring on birthday instead of calendar year - chauffeur licenses - dog licenses - Albuquerque Journal 1955-11-13 p86c1
1955-12-02 1956 license 2-1 to go to City Commission chairman - also other choice number recipients - Albuquerque Tribune 1955-12-02 p11c1
1955-12-12 1956 license plates on sale Dec 15 - fees for Dealers and Wreckers - Las Vegas Daily Optic 1955-12-12 p1c4
1955-12-15 Farm plates introduced for 1956 - Lovington Leader 1955-12-12 p1c1
1955-12-16 Farm Truck plates introduced for 1956 - Deming Headlight 1955-12-16 p16c3
1956-01-14 Low number plates and ham plates can go with owner when vehicle sold - Albuquerque Journal 1956-01-14 p2c5
1956-03-21 Boat Regulation No 1 - Boats and boat houses on Conchas Dam Lake - boats to have license plates furnished by State Park Commission - Las Vegas Daily Optic 1956-03-21
1956-07-28 Albuquerque police using out-of-state plates on unmarked cars - Albuquerque Journal 1956-07-28 p10c1
1957-03-01 License plate expiration and grace period - Albuquerque Journal 1957-03-01 p1c5
1957-06-19 Stacked county numbers are appearing for San Juan and Rio Arriba Counties - Las Vegas Daily Optic 1957-06-19 p4c2
1957-07-19 Otero county to get excess Lea County plates to avoid number going over 9200 - El Paso Herald-Post 1957-07-19 p33c2
1957-08-30 Dona Ana County plates sold out - getting excess Lea County plates - Las Cruces Sun-News 1957-08-30 p4c1
1957-11-10 Calendar year expiration date of Drivers Licenses changing to birthday expiration - Chauffeur License remain calendar year - Albuquerque Journal 1957-11-10 p39c8
1957-11-28 Otero County issues 10000 plates for first time - gets Lea County plates starting 6-30000 - El Paso Herald-Post 1957-11-28 p15c1
1958-01-15 Editorial says Safety Inspection Law and brake and light stickers should be eliminated - Santa Fe New Mexican 1958-01-15 p4c3
1958-01-17 Editorial says Safety Inspection Law and brake and light stickers should be eliminated - Farmington Daily Times 1958-01-17 p2c2
1958-04-19 Boat Regulation No 2 and boat license plates - Las Vegas Daily Optic 1958-04-19 p3c5
1959-04-22 Tabs being considered for 1960 - Farmington Daily Times 1959-04-22 p2c1
1959-04-28 Trailers - House Trailers - plates vs property tax - Farmington Daily Times 1959-04-28 p1c1
1959-04-29 3M stickers proposed for 1960 plates - Clovis News Journal 1959-04-29 p1c3
1959-04-29 Roosevelt County Democratic Chairman Abe Ribble, agent for 3M, to enter 3M bid for 1960 stickers - Albuquerque Tribune 1959-04-29 p22c7
1959-07-01 Boat Act of 1959 - Every boat 10 HP and over must be registered - boat license plates will be two 4 inch by 10 inch adhesive plastic strips issued by Park Commission - Las Vegas Daily Optic 1959-07-01 p-c1
1959-11-13 Tabs will be used for 1960 - Las Vegas Daily Optic 1959-11-13 p1c1
1959-12-13 Numbering of 1960 stickers on tabs - Albuquerque Journal 1959-12-13 pA10c5
1959-12-13 Two tags required for 1960 - 1960 tabs gonig on sale Dec 15 - Deadline is March 2 - Farmington Daily Times 1959-12-13 p1c5
1961-02-06 License plate grace period ends March 2 - Legal deadline is December 31 - Las Cruces Sun-News 1961-02-06 p1c4
1961-03-09 Attorney General rules single plate legal - Clovis News-Journal 1961-03-09 p2c5
1961-03-24 Single plate legal under new law Santa Fe New Mexican 1961-03-24 p13c1
1961-11-24 Cars and trucks will get stickers for 1962 - motorcycles and dealers will get plates - Albuquerque Journal 1961-11-24 pE-9c4
1962-01-29 Legislation validates single plate - may return to 2 plates - Santa Fe New Mexican 1962-01-29 p2c5
1962-02-22 Legislature extends single plate again for 1 year - Santa Fe News Mexican 1962-02-22 p25c5
1962-06-05 Reflective plates may be abandoned and non-reflective plates issued - Farmington Daily Times 1962-06-05 p9c5
1962-06-05 Reflective plates may be abandoned and non-reflective plates issued - Santa Fe New Mexican 1962-06-05 p2c1
1962-06-07 Reflective plates may be abandoned and non-reflective plates issued - Santa Fe New Mexican 1962-06-07 p32c2
1962-12-02 Rehash of single plate and reflecting plates - Santa Fe New Mexican 1962-12-02 p18c5
1963-06-13 Horseless Carriage plate introduced - photo included - Santa Fe New Mexican 1963-06-13 p1c5
1963-07-18 Horseless Carriage plate application deadline - Not available for trucks - Santa Fe New Mexican 1963-07-18 p28c5
1963-07-25 Horseless Carriage plate application deadline - Not available for trucks - Taos News 1963-07-25 p13c1

1964-02-28 Rush for new car tags in Bernalillo County - 150000 registrations expected - Albuquerque Tribune 1964-02-28 pA2c3

1964-12-03 Plate numbers 1-1000 can be reserved for 1965 by former holders of these numbers - Albuquerque Journal 1964-12-03 pA2c3

1965-01-13 Feb 15 is deadline for new license plates - 650000 registrations expected this year - Santa Fe New Mexican 1965-01-13 p18c4

1966-02-28 1967 stickers ordered in qty 500000 - 1965 reg. numbers - Final date for 1966 registration is Mar 2 - Santa Fe New Mexican 1966-06-15 p11c4

1967-02-01 Bernalillo County Citizens Unit special plates proposed for its 30 members - Farmington Daily Times 1967-02-01 p16c2

1967-02-16 License plate expiration - grace period ends March 2 - Los Alamos Monitor 1967-02-16 p1c4

1967-02-28 Senate passes prestige plate bill - supported by Harold Runnels - Albuquerque Journal 1967-02-28 pB-15c3

1967-03-14 Prestige Vanity plate bill signed by Gov Cargo - cost will be 25 dollars - Albuquerque Tribune 1967-03-14 p1c2

1967-06-13 Vanity plates can be purchased beginning June 16 - limited to 3 letters and 3 numerals - must turn in regular plates - Albuquerque Tribune 1967-06-13 pC-3c1

1967-07-21 Prestige plates are being issued since June 16 - First is VIC-1 to Victor Salazar - Farmington Daily Times 1967-07-21 p2c3

1967-07-21 Prestige plates are being issued since June 16 - First is VIC-1 to Victor Salazar - Gallup Independent 1967-07-21 p2c2

1967-10-19 Attorney General rules no special plates for Lt Governor aides - Albuquerque Tribune 1967-10-19 pA21c8

1968-05-26 Bernalillo County Citizens Unit becomes New Mexico Rangers - Albuquerque Journal 1968-05-26 p8c2

1968-06-13 Bernalillo County Citizens Unit becomes New Mexico Rangers - Santa Fe New Mexican 1968-06-13 p34c2

1968-12-29 Prestige plates allowed up to 6 characters in any combination - only 20 bought so far for 1969 - Santa Fe New Mexican 1968-12-29 pC-7c4

1969-07-07 Prestige plates price lowered from 25 to 15 dollars - 43 issued in 1967 and 147 in 1968 - Santa Fe New Mexican 1969-07-07 p5c2

1970-09-19 New regulations in effect Oct 1 - X-prefix motorcycle plates - dealer plates - Gallup Independent 1970-09-19 p11c1

1971-03-17 Registration fee of 25 dollars for Freight Trailers - Albuquerque Journal 1971-03-17 p1c5

1972-01-25 Gov King asks for repeal of staggered registration law - Lovington Daily Leader 1972-01-25 p1c2

1972-09-02 Mobile homes to be assessed, taxed by county - owners should display current Mobile Home plates - Silver City Press 1972-09-02 3c5

1973-02-15 1973 sticker must be on by March 2 - many have not yet registered - Mobile Home permanent plates for those over 8 x 40 - - Albuquerque Journal 1973-02-15 pA3c5

1973-04-13 Collectors of license plates in New Mexico - names of four given - Albuquerque Journal 1973-04-13 p5c4

1973-08-12 Bill Duffy license plate collector - Las Cruces Sun News 1973-08-12 p6c1

1973-08-12 Bill Duffy license plate collector - continued - Las Cruces Sun News 1973-08-12 p8c1

1973-12-05 RV stickers available for 1974 - Albuquerque Journal 1973-12-05 p12c3

1974-02-25 1974 Santa Fe bicycle plates are available - Santa Fe New Mexican 1974-02-25 p11c2

1974-05-29 Purpose of Recreational Vehicle RV stickers - Albuquerque Tribune 1974-05-29 p2c1

1974-06-06 Metal plate to replace paper plate should have been received by now - Albuquerque Tribune 1974-06-06 p2c2

1974-11-22 Registration renewal forms are in the mail - Las Cruces Sun-News 1974-11-22 p5c1

1974-11-26 Mobile Home and House Trailer plates explained - Albuquerque Tribune 1974-11-26 p2c1

1975-01-09 License plate expiration and 2-month grace period to March 2 - Hobbs Daily Flare 1975-01-09 p1c6

1975-05-22 Plates to drop LOE slogan for lack of space - Albuquerque Tribune 1975-05-22 pA4c1

1975-05-22 Plates to drop LOE slogan for lack of space - Lovington Daily Leader 1975-05-22 p1c4

1976-04-12 Staggered registration under study again - Las Cruces Sun-News 1976-04-12 p1c5

1978-06-01 First POW plates introduced - available July 1 - Rio Rancho Observer 1978-06-01 p19c1

1979-10-31 Introduction of Weight Distance WD and Weight Distance Farm Truck WDFT plates - Deming Headlight 1979-10-31

1982-08-24 Illustrations and descriptions of the types of New Mexico license plates being issued in 1982. *Impact*, Albuquerque Journal Magazine 1982-08-24, p8c2

1994-05-30 Lubbock Indian Motorcycle dealer obituary - Roswell Daily Record 1994-05-30 p6c1

1998-12-04 Canada to make plates beginning 1999 by Waldale Manufacturing in Amherst Nova Scotia - Santa Fe New Mexican 1998-12-04 p12c4

1998-12-17 Lawmakers criticize plate manufacture going to Waldale Mfg. in Amherst Nova Scotia Canada - Santa Fe New Mexican 1998-12-17 p16c1

Municipal Ordinances

Albuquerque 1910 Municipal Ordinance 432 required licensing of motor vehicles operated within the City of Albuquerque. License number had to be displayed on vehicle but no mention was made as to who supplied plate.

Las Vegas Automobile licensing ordinance No. 349, effective August 13, 1910. Required automobiles and motorcycles in Las Vegas to be licensed and to display of a single license plate to be supplied by the City Clerk.

Santa Fe City Municipal Ordinance Section 279, effective November 11, 1910. Required that motor vehicles operated within the city of Santa Fe be licensed and owner to display license number on vehicle at his own expense.

Raton Ordinance No. 169, effective February 7, 1911. Required the licensing of motor vehicles operated within that city and display of license number, but made no mention of who supplied plate.

Laws of New Mexico

Territorial Laws

1899 Acts of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of New Mexico, 33rd Session. Contains no mention of motor vehicles or licensing thereof.

1901 Acts of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of New Mexico, 34th Session. Contains no mention of motor vehicles or licensing thereof.

1903 Acts of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of New Mexico, 35th Session. Contains no mention of motor vehicles or licensing thereof.

1905 Acts of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of New Mexico, 36th Session. Contains no mention of motor vehicles or licensing thereof.

1907 Acts of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of New Mexico, 37th Session. Contains no mention of motor vehicles or licensing thereof.

1909 Acts of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of New Mexico, 38th Session. Contains no mention of motor vehicles or licensing thereof.

State Laws

1912 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 28. First state licensing law. Required licensing of automobiles only, and issuance of license plates.

1912 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 28, Sec. 3. Directs license fees to go into the State Road Fund.

1913 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 19. Motor vehicle licensing law. Requires all motor vehicles, not just automobiles, to be licensed. Created Dealer category. Changed expiration date for licenses issued in 1912 and 1913 to December 31, 1913. Prohibited municipalities from requiring an additional license for motor vehicles.

1915 Laws of New Mexico. Mostly a reiteration of the 1913 law.

1917 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 11. Created De Baca County.

1917 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 23. Created Lea County.

1917 Laws of New Mexico. Chapter 38, Section 15. Created State Highway Commission. Defines “State Road Fund,” wherein certain taxes and registration fees are deposited.

1917 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 61. Fire insurance companies authorized to insure motor vehicles.

1917 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 65, Article II, Sec. 16. Mechanics shall have a lien upon motor vehicles for repairing and storing such motor vehicles.

1917 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 66. Unauthorized / unlawful taking of automobiles, bicycles, motorcycles, and other vehicles.

1919 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 11. Created Hidalgo County.

1919 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 150. Note, this is an extensive and detailed motor vehicle law that addresses many more aspects of the regulation of motor vehicles than those indicated in the following few references to it.

1919 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 150, Section 1. Defined Motor Trucks and specified higher registration fees for them.

1919 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 150, Section 9. Established multi-year license plates which were implemented as New Mexico’s porcelain plates.

1921 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 27. Repeals Sec. 31 of Chapter 150, Laws of 1919, regarding heavy vehicles with narrow tires.

1921 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 28. Created Catron County.

1921 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 48. Created Harding County.

1921 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 94. Regarding brakes, lights, signals, lugs and cleats, on motor vehicles. Regulating traffic on public highways.

1923 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 96, Sec. 1. Changed definition of “motor truck” from a solid tire truck to “Any motor vehicle designed and used principally for carrying things other than passengers.”

1923 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 96, Sec. 3. Set forth new commercial categories and higher fees for them, unique license plates. Omitted requirement for Dealer plates to have the word “DEALER.” Required trailers to be licensed.

1923 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 96, Sec. 5. Required plates for commercial vehicles, trailers, etc., to show the weight and carrying capacity.

1923 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 96, Sec. 10. Exempted federally owned vehicles from having to pay for New Mexico registration.

1925 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 82, § 5. Defined “motor vehicle” to mean motor vehicle *and trailer* subject to the payment of registration fees under the laws of New Mexico.

1925 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 82, Section 6. Required county assessors were to prepare automobile assessment rolls. Forms provided by the Motor Vehicle Department to the county treasurers to be used as receipt showing proof of payment of the property tax before vehicle could be registered.

1927 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 28. Gave municipalities the authority to license drivers.

1927 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 111. State Comptroller shall collect and distribute Motor Vehicle registration fees.

1929 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 75, § 54. Established brake & light safety inspections and provided for the issuance of certificate of inspection to be issued upon completion of inspection.

1929 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 119. Note: This is an extensive and detailed motor vehicle law that addresses many more aspects of the regulation of motor vehicles than those indicated in the following references to it.

1929 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 119, § 1. Defining buses, taxicabs, driverless cars, semi-trailers, etc., and licensing thereof.

1929 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 119, § 15. No longer requires trailer plates to show weight and carrying capacity.

1929 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 119, § 19(a). Explicitly said that either the word “DEALER or a distinguishing symbol” could be used on Dealer plates.

1929 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 119, § 28. Changed basis for registration fees from horsepower to vehicle weight. Raised registration fee penalty for solid tire vehicles from 25% to 100%.

1929 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 119, § 32. Lifted double taxation of motor vehicles by prohibiting property tax on duly licensed vehicles.

1929 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 121. Note, this is an extensive and detailed motor vehicle law that addresses many more aspects of the regulation of motor vehicles than those indicated in the following reference to it.

1929 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 121, § 5½ [sic]. Required registration certificates to be display in a special holder provided by the state.

1931 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 30. Exemption of fees for trailers under 1 ton used by farmers.

1931 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 32. Inspection of brakes and lights

1931 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 33. Regulating the weight of vehicles and loads.

1931 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 77. Amends prior laws governing motor vehicles, sets registration expiration date as December 31 of each year, registration fees, lost number plates (license plates), motor truck registration fees, taxicab and driverless car registration fees, 100% surcharge on registration fees for vehicles using solid tires other than rubber, distribution of fees.

1931 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 162. \$10,000 appropriation for purchase of license plates, and other monies allocated for Motor Vehicle Department.

1933 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 5. Authorized the State Penitentiary to manufacture New Mexico's license plates and road signs, authorized \$15,000 to buy necessary equipment, and required the State Comptroller and State Highway Department to buy all their license plates and road signs from the prison.

1933 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 12. Amended prior laws regarding motor vehicle registration cards.

1933 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 24. Sale of license plates and other items manufactured by the State Penitentiary restricted to departments of the State of New Mexico.

1933 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 61. Regulated hours of service of drivers and chauffeurs of motor vehicles for hire.

1933 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 69. Amended prior laws with respect to motor vehicle registration fees.

1933 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 79. Authorized creation of New Mexico Motor Patrol (renamed New Mexico State Police in 1935.)

1933 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 100. Assigns care, control, supervision and custody of all state-owned vehicles to the State Highway Engineer.

1933 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 118. Amends prior laws with respect to speed, weight, size, and loads of motor vehicles on New Mexico highways.

1933 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 139. Amends prior laws with respect to registration fees.

1933 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 154. Regulation of motor vehicles for hire, common carriers, contract motor carriers, private motor carriers, fees and taxes, etc.

1933 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 169. Amends prior laws defining vehicle types, tire types, legal owner, registered owner, and regarding registration cards and transfer of registration, fees for registration of automobiles, motorcycles, trailers, semi-trailers, motor trucks, taxicabs, driverless cars, surcharge for solid tires; inspection of lights, brakes and steering equipment, etc.

1933 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 186. \$10,000 appropriation for purchase of license plates, and other monies allocated for Motor Vehicle Department.

1935 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 9. Created Bureau of Revenue. Placed the Comptroller's office and, hence, the Motor Vehicle Department, within the Bureau of Revenue.

1935 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 15. Owner or operator of motor vehicle not liable for injury, death, or loss by non-paying passenger unless intentional or caused by heedlessness or recklessness disregard of the rights of others.

1935 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 56, Section 1(c). Required out-of-state salesmen to buy license plate for \$5.00. Required out-of-state companies regularly operating any motor vehicle, trailer or semi-trailer within New Mexico to register each such vehicle and pay the fees. Other fees, including for dealers and special permits..

1935 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 75. Motor trucks required to be equipped with flares for use when truck is stopped on or adjacent to highway at night. Must be visible from 500 feet.

1935 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 119. Changed the name of the New Mexico Motor Patrol to the New Mexico State Police.

1935 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 151. \$10,000 appropriation for purchase of license plates, and other monies allocated for Motor Vehicle Department.

1937 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 110. Required for the first time that drivers and chauffeurs have state-issued licenses.

1937 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 120. Provided that a special license plate be provided to salesmen.

1937 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 135. Motor trucks cannot be registered or licensed until required number of flares are shown.

1937 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 137. Regulating out-of-state dealers of used motor vehicles.

1937 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 196. Certain motor vehicles carrying property or passengers must have clearance, identification and side marker lamps.

1937 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 224. Amending prior laws concerning regulation of motor vehicle for hire, common carriers, etc.

1939 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 9. Established Bureau of Revenue.

1939 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 20. Provided for lower registration fees for school buses operated by private companies.

1939 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 79. Establishing certain school bus zones and regulations for other drivers within those zones.

1939 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 101. Vehicle registration still expires December 31, but deadline for renewal is now March 2.

1939 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 117, Section 1 (d). Eliminated the requirement that out-of-state salesmen buy New Mexico license plates.

1939 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 156. Amended the 1937 law on drivers and chauffeur licenses, including raising the minimum age for school bus drivers from 17 to 21.

1941 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 11. No vehicle to be transported on highways either on its own wheels or on another vehicle unless vehicle is licensed by New Mexico, is owned by a license dealer, or a special permit is obtained for the transportation of such vehicle.

1941 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 87. Dealers shall remove foreign license plates that are on motor vehicles to which they acquire title.

1941 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 140. Providing for issuance of certificates of title by the motor vehicle department. Requirements pertaining to transfer of title, etc. Title and registration plates to be surrendered for wrecked vehicles.

1941 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 149. Established Mounted Patrol.

1941 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 199. Regulation of traffic on highways. Providing for traffic signs and signals. Certain safety equipment to be used on motor vehicles. Defining power of local authorities to enact or enforce ordinance related to matters within this law.

1941 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 212. Motor Vehicle Division of Bureau of Revenue to receive 6% of all motor vehicle registration fees for its operations and expenses.

1943 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 35. Regulating size and weight of vehicles operated on public highways. Permits for excessive size and/or weight.

1943 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 39. Military personnel may operate out-of-state vehicles without New Mexico registration or license for six months for duration of hostilities between U.S. and axis powers.

1943 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 54. Chauffeur licenses, School bus drivers must be 17 or older

1943 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 73. Providing for issuance of certificates of title. Transfer of title requires turning in to the motor vehicle department both the old title and old registration certificate.

1943 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 127. Motor Vehicle Division of Bureau of Revenue to receive 6% of all motor vehicle registration fees for its operations and expenses.

1945 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 40. Provided for optional license periods of one, two, or three years for chauffeur licenses vs. previous one year license.

1945 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 32. Illegal to dump scrapped automobiles (junkers) on highways or rights of way.

1945 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 42. Certain persons not to be granted operator's or chauffeur's licenses. Persons at least 17 years of age may be licensed to drive school busses for the duration of the present war.

1945 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 139. Motor Vehicle Division of Bureau of Revenue to receive 6% of all motor vehicle registration fees for its operations and expenses.

1947 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 15. Prohibited Staff Officer plates and any other similar designations not authorized by law on number plates.

1947 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 56. Reciprocal agreements. Established Reciprocity Commission.

1947 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 144. Amended prior laws governing certificates of title, liens, registration by tourists, vehicles used for agricultural purposes, non-residents engaged in business in the state, transportation of cars on highways by dealers, etc.

1947 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 171. Busses and trucks carrying passengers shall not be heated by any stove with an open flame.

1947 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 221. Motor Vehicle Division of Bureau of Revenue to receive 6% of all motor vehicle registration fees for its operations and expenses.

1949 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 134. Created Los Alamos County.

1949 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 141. When title is transferred, registration must be transferred and number plates (license plates) must be left on the vehicle.

1949 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 163. Reciprocal agreements between New Mexico and other states to exempt motor vehicles from registration and fees for vehicles from those states which reciprocate by exempting New Mexico motor vehicles for registration and fees.

1949 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 179. Motor Vehicle Division of Bureau of Revenue to receive 6% of all motor vehicle registration fees for its operations and expenses.

1951 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 42. Fees for registration of motor vehicles.

1951 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 170. Chauffeur and Driver Licenses and fees.

1953 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 74. Chauffeur Licenses - certain persons prohibited.

1953 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 91. Authorized Amateur Radio plates.

1953 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 128. 1953 Laws Chapter 128 - Out of state chauffeur licensees can drive but not chauffeur in state.

1953 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 138. Pertaining to Bus, Taxi, House Trailer, etc.

1953 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 138, Sec. 77. Provided the basis for the issuance of Dealer Manufacturer and Wrecker plates.

1953 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 138, Sec. 24. Establishing Division of Motor Vehicles within Bureau of Revenue.

1953 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 138, Sec. 51. Mandated two license plates. Specified appearance of license plates.

1953 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 140. Distribution of Drivers license fees.

1955 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 11. Authorized special plates for U.S. Representatives and U.S. Senators from New Mexico.

1955 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 16, Sec. 1. Amendments to laws regarding certificates of title.

1955 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 19, Sec. 1(d). Exemption of trailers from licensing if use only for transport of farm produce and animals.

1955 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 37. Size and weight limitations for motor vehicles and their loads.

1955 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 113. Explicitly authorized State Representative and State Senator license plates which identified the vehicle owners as such.

1955 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 158. Authorizes schools to provide driver education.

1955 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 179. Made operator (driver) licenses good for two years, with expiration on birth date instead of December 31. Chauffeur badges reverted to one year period with expiration on December 31. Person holding chauffeur license need not obtain an operator license; Instruction (learner's) permit.

1955 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 183, Sec. 2. Temporary licenses (permits) for motor vehicles.

1955 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 183, Sec. 10. Fees for titles, registration certificates, dismantling permits, liens, etc.

1955 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 247, Sec. 3. Excise tax on certificates of title.

1955 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 276. Reciprocal agreements, proportional registration.

1957 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 207. Exempting payment of excise tax on certificates of title under certain circumstances.

1957 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 236. Registration fees for motor vehicles.

1959 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 3. Registration fees for trucks, and farm & ranch vehicles; Temporary plates.

1959 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 151. Permitting voluntary inclusion of blood type on operators' and chauffeurs' licenses.

1959 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 155. Special callsign license plates for Amateur Radio and commercial radio/television stations, and employees of the latter. Explicitly stated the purpose of these plates for both Amateur Radio and commercial radio.

1959 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 156. Motor vehicle registration by non-residents.

1959 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 157. Reduced fees for registration for portion of a year; 30-day Seasonal Agricultural Permits for vehicles owned by persons engaged in migrant seasonal labor.

1959 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 158. Special license plates for State Representatives, State Senators, Chief Clerk of the House and Senate, Mounted Patrol.

1959 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 161. Exemption of veteran amputees from payment of registration fees.

1959 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 236. Regulation of transportation of passengers or property for hire.

1959 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 247. Permits for oversize and overweight loads.

1959 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 338. New Mexico Boat Act. Required statewide licensing of boats for the first time.

1961 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 51. Vehicles on loan from dealers and used in Driver Education programs at public schools need not be registered but must display plates provided by the Motor Vehicle Division. [Probably the DE plates.]; The Division is to issue plates for vehicles and trailers in the service of the state, counties, and municipalities. These shall be permanent plates, numbered to identify the state division/department, county, or municipality to which issued.

1961 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 95. A motor vehicle is considered validly registered if the owner is in possession of a current certificate of registration and there is displayed on the vehicle one or more plates issued by the DMV, even if the plate(s) do not meet the requirements of the Laws of 1953, Chapter 138, Sec. 51. [This law was enacted to eliminate confusion caused by the recent switch from two plates to one plate, which Governor Mecham claimed was "unconstitutional."]

1961 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 109. Dealers and wreckers of vehicles must procure a corporate security bond before being licensed.

1961 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 124. Prorated fees for portion of the year; 30-day agricultural permit for persons engaged in seasonal agricultural employment; two-day Drive Out permit for nonresidents purchasing a vehicle for transport out of the state.

1961 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 180. New plates for the coming year must not be displayed before December 15; House Trailers must bear current registration plates. [Plates were required in 1955, but not 1956-1960.]

1961 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 194. Terms of operator's and chauffeur's licenses; Fees increased for chauffeur licenses.

1962 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 3. Single plate legitimacy extended to March 2, 1964.

1963 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 15. No permit or fee is required for farm tractors or implements to travel on highways during daylight hours for a one-way distance of 50 miles or less.

1963 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 30. Front seat belts required on automobiles beginning with 1964 models.

1963 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 41. Boat dealers exempted from requirement that dealers and wreckers of vehicles post a bond.

1963 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 51. Authorized Horseless Carriage plates for automobiles at least 35 years old. Explicitly stipulated that plate was to be undated, Trucks were not eligible, and that plate was to be renewed every 5 years. [Trucks were added by 1973 Laws, Chapter 5.]

1963 Laws of New Mexico - Chapter 70 - Pertaining to motor vehicle employees - Handling of fees.

1963 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 84. The Division of Motor Vehicles shall issue to the owner of a registered vehicle a plate, or plates, or decals [stickers], annually designated by the Commissioner of the Division of Motor Vehicles.

1963 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 125. The name of the Division of Motor Vehicles is changed to the Department of Motor Vehicles, and the department is established within the Executive branch.

1963 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 170. Establishment of Reciprocity Commission.

1963 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 171. Authorizes transfer of plates from one vehicle to another vehicle owned by the same person, for a fee of \$10.00.

1963 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 174. Established the Pro-rate Truck and Pro-rate Trailer categories, and license plates of this type. Registrations; Titles; Proportional registration; Interstate operation; Reciprocity Commission.

1963 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 322. Excise tax on issuance of certificates of title.

1965 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 17. Reduced annual registration fees for school buses.

1965 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 47. Authorized issuance of temporary permits pending issuance of registration and certificate of title by the motor vehicle division.

1965 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 99. Provided for the issuance of single-trip permits for school buses.

1965 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 140. Amended the definition of “motor vehicle” to include boats and airplanes.

1965 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 148. Authorized special plates for the Sergeant at Arms of both the House and the Senate.

1966 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 65. Required the licensing of billboards, with the New Mexico State Highway Department/Commission as the licensing authority.

1967 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 65. Authorized issuance of special personalized prestige license plates (vanity plates). Fee is \$25. Applicant must reapply each year, but has first priority on plate held the previous year.

1967 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 97. Created Department of Motor Transportation. Department to establish Ports of Entry. Commercial Motor carriers required to register with the Department.

1967 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 105. Authorized limited driver's licenses for certain visually impaired persons.

1967 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 108. Special registration fees for buses with seating capacity of 40 persons or less used exclusively for transportation of agricultural workers. Exempted Agricultural Buses from the tariff-filing requirements of the State Corporation Commission.

1967 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 191. Persons 13 years of age or older may be licensed to operate motor scooter of 5 brake horsepower or less. Helmets required for persons operating motorcycles, motor scooters, etc.

1967 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 251. Any owner who sells a motor vehicle for scrap or dismantling must transfer title to the buyer.

1967 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 263. Veterans temporarily exempt from having driver's license under certain limited circumstances.

1967 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 264. Authorized special "Auxiliary Police" license plates for members of the Bernalillo County Citizens Unit (BCCU).

1967 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 301. Driver's licenses to include photograph of licensee. Photos for persons over 21 years of age to be full face front view; For persons under 21 years to be profile side view.

1968 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 2. Special registration fee for liquid fertilizer trailers.

1968 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 29. Established requirement for periodic safety inspection and issuance of safety (brake & light) stickers for motor vehicles, including trailers, semi-trailers and pole trailers. Inspections to be at least twice a year but not more than three times per year.

1968 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 60. Nonresident persons engaged in full-time study at institutions of higher learning not required to register their vehicles in New Mexico.

1969 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 21. Fee for personalized prestige (vanity) plate reduced from \$25 to \$15.

1969 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 30. Persons driving in New Mexico are deemed to have given implied consent to breath or blood test to determine blood alcohol content.

1969 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 70, Sec. C.(1). Nonresident persons engaged in full-time study at institutions of higher learning not required to register their vehicles in New Mexico, but must display a nonresident student sticker obtained from institution. Sticker to be provided to institution by Department of Motor Vehicles.

1969 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 70, Sec. C.(2). Nonresidents commuting daily to work in New Mexico and returning to home outside New Mexico not required to register vehicle in New Mexico. Applies only if home state provides reciprocal privilege to New Mexico residents.

1969 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 107. Fees for registration of trailers, semi-trailers, pole trailers, house trailers, horse trailers. Trailers used for transporting agricultural products and animals are exempt.

1969 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 169, Sec. 8. Occupying a house trailer while it is being towed is prohibited. Towing an occupied house trailer is prohibited.

1969 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 266. Driver's licenses, chauffeur licenses, temporary licenses, instruction permits. Helmets, eye protection, for motorcyclists. Motorcycle handlebars may not be higher than 15 inches above the top of the seat when the seat is fully depressed.

1970 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 50. Requires aircraft hangared or based in New Mexico to be registered, and registration fees paid. Fees are: One year old or less, two cents per pound of manufacturer's stated gross weight; Two years old, \$0.0175 per pound; Three years old, \$0.015 per pound; four years old, \$0.0125 per pound; Five years or more old, \$0.01 per pound.

1970 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 59. Inspection of air pollution control equipment in certain motor vehicles.

1970 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 74. Fees for operator's (driver's) licenses.

1971 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 37, Sec. 1.C.(1). Right turn on red light now permitted.

1971 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 38. Established a system of staggered registration, for passenger vehicles only, whereby each registrant was arbitrarily assigned to a specific registration period. The initial registration period shall not be more than seventeen months, with registration fees prorated accordingly. The MVD shall determine the number of vehicles to be assigned to each staggered registration period, in order to initiate the system not later than January 1, 1973. Registration for all other vehicle shall expire on December 31 and must be renewed by March 2. (Approved March 2, 1971.) **NOTE: This system was never implemented, but a simpler system whereby the registration period was based on the month of the vehicle's initial registration was authorized by the 1981 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 361, and implemented effective April 1, 1982.**

1971 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 39. Lists revised registration fees for passenger vehicles.

1971 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 177. Registration of snowmobiles and fees therefor. Upon receipt of the registration certificate the owner must affix or paint the full registration number on both sides of the forward half of the snowmobile.

1971 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 255. Regulation of Special Permits for oversize loads.

1971 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 279. Provides definitions of motorcycle, motor-driven cycle, and motor scooter, and the regulation thereof.

1972 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 7. Provided for the issuance of Freight Trailer license plates. Registration fees for trucks, truck-tractors, road tractors, buses, trailers, freight trailers, semi-trailers, pole trailers.

1972 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 15. Authorized special plates for "members of the consular or diplomatic corps of a foreign country who are certified by the United States Department of State."

1972 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 27. Established the Recreational Vehicle (RV) category and the issuance of special RV stickers for 1974 plates, and purpose-made RV plates beginning 1975.

1972 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 35. Change of registration fees for taxicabs.

1972 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 86, effective Jan. 1, 1973. Established Mobile Home category for license plates. Registration and taxation of house trailers. Special Permits for movement of house trailers.

1973 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 5. Authorized trucks to be registered as horseless carriages [in addition to automobiles, which were authorized in 1963].

1973 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 19. Required name of county in which plates were issued to be shown on plates, effective January 1, 1977, for all plates issued in 1977 and thereafter. [This was facilitated by the county name sticker box that was introduced in 1977.]

1973 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 20. Established minimum sizes for motor vehicles permitted on highways, including minimum wheelbase of 3' 4", and minimum motor displacement of 45 cc.

1973 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 22. Authorized special handicap plates for disabled persons.

1973 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 27, Sec. 1.D. Revised Laws of 1972, Chapter 86, regarding Mobile Home licensing.

1973 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 30. Changed the definitions of certain types of trailers and changed the provisions for registration of certain types of trailers.

1973 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 176. Prohibits motor vehicles from having windows or window coverings that prevent viewing from the exterior into the interior of the vehicle.

1973 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 269. Authorized the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue identification cards to persons sixteen years of age or older who do not have an operator's (driver's) license.

1973 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 389. Required reflectorized license plate to be issued once every six years, beginning in 1977. A fee of 50 cents per plate to be imposed once every six years, coinciding with the issuance of the reflectorized plates.

1975 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 35. Pertaining to the preservation of certain motor vehicles of historical and special significance. Exempts such vehicles from modern safety and emissions requirements.

1975 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 42. Amendments to registration and licensing of snowmobiles.

1975 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 60. When so requested by the licensee, permits driver's licenses to indicate that the licensee is an organ donor.

1975 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 162. Directs DMV to issue plates with reflective background. Reflective material to have durability to last for six years. Plates to be issued once every six years, validated by stickers annually. Plates to display (1) the registration number, (2) the name of the state, centered across the bottom of the plate, (3) the year for which it was issued, (4) the name of the county across the top of the plate. Requirements to be effective with plates issued in 1977 and thereafter. **[Note that the law did not require the plate to carry the Land of Enchantment slogan, and in fact six weeks after passage of the law the Director of the MVD said that the slogan would be dropped to make room for everything else that was required, though in the end that did not happen.]**

1975 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 209. Issuance of titles and non-negotiable certificates of title.

1975 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 240. Off Highway Motorcycle Act. Sets requirements for registration and titling, including registration fees. Dealers must obtain a dealer demonstration certificate for each vehicle used for demonstration.

1975 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 271. Provides for a separate license for operators of motorcycles.

1976 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 36 (passed by the Special Session of the 32nd Legislature). Imposition of excise tax on certificates of title for certain vehicles, but persons on active military duty and domiciled outside of the state are exempt.

1977 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 5. Persons under the age of 18 operating or riding on motorcycles required to wear an approved safety helmet.

1977 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 60. Changes requirements for registration of motor vehicles by nonresidents.

1977 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 93. Repealing certain sections of the motor vehicle inspection law.

1977 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 100. Definition of terms relating to motor vehicles.

1977 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 135. Motorized bicycles. Definition of. Licensing requirements for operators. None of the provisions of the Motor Vehicle Code applicable to motor vehicles apply to motorized bicycles, except the provisions of this law.

1977 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 210. Amendments to law regarding registration and certificate of title.

1977 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 233. Requires proof of ownership in possession of anyone transporting a crushed or inoperable motor vehicle on public roads.

1977 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 234. Providing for the refund of motor vehicle registration fees under certain circumstances.

1978 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 35. Creates the Motor Vehicle Code by repealing, enacting new, and recompiling certain sections of prior laws. **NOTE: This is a massive law running fully 450 pages, covering every aspect of New Mexico's motor vehicle laws as they existed at that time. No attempt has been made to summarize it here except for the one item immediately below.**

1978 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 35, Sec 47. Updated 1963 law on Horseless Carriage license plates.

1979 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 299. Authorizes special plates to be made available to veterans who were one hundred percent disabled by an enemy of the United States during an armed conflict.

1979 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 327. Re-authorizes special plates for members of the New Mexico Mounted Patrol and certain other persons.

1979 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 329. Specifies persons to whom driver's and chauffeur licenses are *not* to be issued.

1979 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 370. Permits permanent registration for freight trailers for \$10.00; States annual registration fees for utility trailers; Provides for five-year fleet registration for owners of fifty or more utility trailers, with registration fees paid annually for all trailers in fleet.

1979 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 375. Authorizes special plates to be made available to former Prisoners of War, at no charge.

1980 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 44. Eliminates fees for special plates for 100% disabled veterans, members of the N.M. Mounted Patrol and members of the N.M. Rangers.

1980 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 45. Makes available special plates for members of the National Guard, at no extra fee.

1980 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 61. Increased fees for oversize / overweight permits.

1981 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 361. **Note: This is an extensive and wide ranging motor vehicle law which runs 46 pages. Only a very few of its many provisions are cited below.**

1981 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 361, Sec. 4.A.(2). Application for title must include odometer reading.

1981 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 361, Sec. 8. Authorized staggered registration. Every vehicle other than those under staggered registration, mobile homes and freight trailers (which are permanent registrations) shall expire on December 31 annually.

1981 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 361, Sec. 23. Fees for special plates for dealers (\$50 each), motorcycle dealers (\$10 each), wholesalers (\$50 each), etc.

1983 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 41. Motorboat licensing and inspection.

1983 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 45. Establishing designated parking spaces for disabled persons.

1983 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 142. Procedures for commercial motor carriers entering, leaving, or passing through the state. Also registration and fees.

1983 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 252. Children under 5 years required to be in child restraint devices when riding in passenger car, van, or pickup truck.

1983 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 266. Motorcycle registration fees increased. Licensing of motorcycle operators.

1983 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 271. Local jurisdictions permitted to regulate snowmobile use within the boundaries of their jurisdiction.

1983 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 295. Name of Mobile Housing Act changed to Manufactured Housing Act.

1989 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 162, § 1. Authorized Pearl Harbor Survivor license plates.

1989 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 360, § 1. Authorized Collegiate license plates.

1993 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 180, § 8. Revised law governing Mounted Patrol.

1993 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 80, § 1. Authorized Children's Trust Fund license plates.

1993 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 180, § 6. Pertains to Pearl Harbor Survivor license plates.

1993 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 180, § 8. Governs New Mexico Ranger and Mounted Patrol license plates.

1994 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 122, § 1. Pertaining to special plates for elected officials, members of the legislature, etc. Members of the legislature may simultaneously hold both a legislative plate and a regular plate registered to the same vehicle, and may swap the plates back and forth on that vehicle as they see fit.

1995 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 8, § 5. Pertains to Pearl Harbor Survivor license plates.

1998 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 21, § 1. Authorized Firefighter license plates and Volunteer Firefighter license plates.

1998 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 25, § 1. Provided for Year of Manufacture (YOM) classification.

2000 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 70, § 1. Updated 1998 Firefighter and Volunteer Firefighter license plate laws.

2003 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 172, § 2. Authorized Retired Letter Carrier license plates.

2003 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 175, § 2. Authorized Spay Neuter pet care license plates.

2003 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 174, § 2. Authorized Retired State Police license plates.

2003 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 177, § 2. Authorized Fraternal Order of Police license plates.

2003 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 178, § 2. Authorized Share With Wildlife license plates.

2003 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 179, § 2. Authorized Civil Air Patrol Member, New Mexico Wing license plates.

2003 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 180, § 2. Authorized Route 66 license plates.

2003 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 181, § 2. Authorized Retired Firefighter license plates.

2003 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 201, § 2. Authorized Search and Rescue Member license plates.

2003 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 211, § 2. Pertains to Retired State Police license plates.

2003 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 212, § 2. Authorized High School Rodeo Association license plates.

2004 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 59, § 9. Pertains to Share With Wildlife license plates.

2005 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 112, § 1. Authorized Organ Donation Awareness license plates.

2005 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 123, § 1. Authorized motorcycle version of Children's Trust Fund license plates.

2005 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 344, § 1. Authorized Emergency Medical Technician license plates.

2006 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 76, § 1. Authorized Patriot (Support Our Troops) license plates.

2007 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 87, § 1. Authorized Child Adoption Awareness license plates.

2007 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 136, § 1. Authorized Cumbres & Toltec Railroad license plates.

2007 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 154, § 1. Updated 1998 and 2000 Firefighter and Volunteer Firefighter license plate laws.

2007 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 319, § 29. Authorized Dealer Coach license plates.

2008 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 34, § 1. Authorized Breast Cancer Awareness license plates.

2008 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 85, § 1. Authorized “Las Cruces” license plates, but only for issuance to residents of that city.

2009 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 85, § 1. Authorized Bass Fishing license plates.

2009 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 86, § 1. Authorized Retired Law Enforcement Officer license plates.

2009 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 89, § 1. Authorized Boy Scouts centennial license plates.

2009 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 90, § 1. Authorized Farm and Ranch license plates.

2009 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 87, § 1. Authorized 4H license plates.

2009 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 88, § 1. Authorized Gold Star Family license plates.

2009 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 120, § 1. Authorized Santa Fe 400th Anniversary license plates, but only for residents of that city.

2009 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 192, § 1. Pertains to Spay Neuter pet care license plates.

2011 Laws of New Mexico, Ch. 7, § 1. Authorized Blood Donor license plates.

2011 Laws of New Mexico, Chapter 66: Motor Vehicles, Article 3. Expired special registration plates, and promotional or advertising plates, may be exhibited on the front of a vehicle.

Registration Records

Listed below are all of the known surviving New Mexico motor vehicle registration records. These records do not survive for all years, and for most of the multi-volume years of the *Zia Book*, one or more volumes are missing. Nothing is known to survive after 1938. Ironically, the records for the earliest years, 1912-1916, are complete, with nothing at all missing from them.

Automobile License Record 1912-1914. (Handwritten ledger. Includes motorcycles and Dealers.)

Automobile License Record 1915. (Handwritten ledger. Includes motorcycles and Dealers.)

Automobile License Record 1916. (Handwritten ledger. Includes motorcycles and Dealers.)

List of Motor Vehicles 1918, State of New Mexico

Motor Vehicle Register 1920, State of New Mexico

Motor Vehicle Register 1923, July 1, 1923, State of New Mexico

Motor Vehicle Register 1924, State of New Mexico

Motor Vehicle Register 1926, State of New Mexico
Motor Vehicle Department Registration Book 1927
Motor Vehicle Register 1928, Numerical List of Automobile Registration
New Mexico Automobile License Directory 1931
The Zia Book, New Mexico Automobile License Directory 1932, Volume I
The Zia Book, New Mexico Automobile License Directory 1933, Volume I
The Zia Book, New Mexico Automobile License Directory 1933, Volume III
The Zia Book, New Mexico Automobile License Directory 1934, Volume I
The Zia Book, New Mexico Automobile License Directory 1934, Volume II
The Zia Book, New Mexico Automobile License Directory 1934, Volume III
The Zia Book, New Mexico Automobile License Directory 1935, Volume II
The Zia Book, New Mexico Automobile License Directory 1935, Volume III
The Zia Book, New Mexico Automobile License Directory 1936, Volume II
The Zia Book, New Mexico Automobile License Directory 1936, Volume III
The Zia Book, New Mexico Automobile License Directory 1936, Volume IV
The Zia Book, New Mexico Automobile License Directory 1937, Volume III
The Zia Book, New Mexico Automobile License Directory 1938, Volume I
The Zia Book, New Mexico Automobile License Directory 1938, Volume II
The Zia Book, New Mexico Automobile License Directory 1938, Volume III
The Zia Book, New Mexico Automobile License Directory 1932, Volume IV

DMV Publications Describing New Mexico License Plates

New Mexico DMV publication, Procedures for Titling and Registering Motor Vehicles in New Mexico - 1964. Among other things, describes the 30-Day Non-Resident Seasonal Agricultural Permit.

Press release, "Vehicles Subject to New Mexico Registration," Benny E. Sanchez, Motor Vehicle Commissioner, July 31, 1964. Illustrates and explains types of New Mexico license plates for 1964.

Untitled 1969 publication. Illustrates and explains types of New Mexico license plates for 1964. Very similar format to the 1964 publication described immediately above.

License Plates for 1972, N.M. Department of Motor Vehicles. Illustrates and explains types of New Mexico license plates for 1972.

Department of Motor Vehicles 1975 License Plates and Stickers, Jerry Manzagol, Commissioner, publication DMV-P001, February 1975. Illustrates and explains new license plates for 1975.

1978 New Mexico License Plates, TMV-10263, June 1978. Illustrates and explains license plates for 1978.

New Mexico License Plates - 1984 Edition, New Mexico Transportation Department, TAS-10263, Rev. 12/83. Illustrates and explains license plates of that period.

New Mexico USA License Plates, MVD-10264, June 1993. Color card illustrating many types of New Mexico plates being issued at that time.

Other Publications

New Mexico Blue Books

New Mexico Blue Book 1931-1932, p. 41. Gives the term of office of the first Secretaries of State, Antonio Lucero (1912-1918), and Manuel Martinez (1919-1923).

New Mexico Blue Book 1931-1932, p. 45. Information on Jake Lujan, Comptroller, and Manuel Gallegos, head of Motor Vehicle Dept. in 1932.

New Mexico Blue Book 1931-1932, p. 91. Gives information on history of New Mexico National Guard.

New Mexico Blue Book 1931-1932. Reports Arthur T. Hannett's term as Governor.

New Mexico Blue Book 1935-1936, p. 60. Reported that New Mexico State Penitentiary was not permitted to make plates for anyone outside of the state.

New Mexico Blue Book, 1989-1990. Reports term or office of Governor John Miles. Shows succession of Secretary of State: Antonio Lucero was the Secretary of State 1912-1918, succeeded by Manuel Martinez 1919-1922 and Soledad C. Chacón 1923-1926

New Mexico Blue Book 2007-2008, p. 151. Reports Public Regulation Commission (PRC) created, replacing both the State Corporation Commission and the State Utility Commission.

Secretary of State Reports

Report of Secretary of State [Antonio Lucero] ... for the Period ending November 20th, 1912, p.16. Reports the order of, and cost of the 1912 license plates.

Report of the Secretary of State Antonio Lucero for the Two Years Including November 30th, 1914, p. 12. (These were the First and Second Fiscal Years, FY 1913 and FY 1914.) Provided report on motor vehicle licensing during this period.

Report of the Secretary of State Manuel Martinez ..., Seventh and Eighth Fiscal Years, 1919-1920, p.17. (FY 1919 and FY 1920). Report on Visitor tags sold in 1920 (only 25 sold). Recommended that the multi-year (porcelain) license plates be discontinued because of rampant theft of seals (tabs).

Report of the Secretary of State Manuel Martinez ... Ninth and Tenth Fiscal Years, 1921-1922, p. 5. (FY 1921 and FY 1922). Reports number of license plates renewed in 1921 and 1922.

Report of the Secretary of State [Soledad C. Chacón], Thirteenth and Fourteenth Fiscal Years, (Fifteenth Fiscal Year from July 1, 1926 to December 1, 1926) 1925-26, last page. (FY 1925, FY 1926, FY 1927. The rather convoluted title of this report was a result of the 1926 change of the Fiscal Year from December 1 – November 30, to July 1 – June 30.) Reported Secretary of State Soledad Chacón's efforts to have the motor vehicle registration function returned to her office from the Comptroller's office.

New Mexico Comptroller Reports

Comptroller Department ... Biennial Report for the 15th and 16th Fiscal Years ... Gilberto Mirabal, Comptroller, p. 28. (FY 1927 and FY 1928). Reports expenditure of \$1,455.00 for printing the 300-page 1927 motor vehicle registration books.

Biennial Report of the Comptroller's Department ... for the Nineteenth and Twentieth Fiscal Years, Juan N. Vigil, State Comptroller, p. 34 (FY 1931 and FY 1932), and Biennial Report of the State Comptroller for the Twenty-First and Twenty-Second Fiscal Years, Juan N. Vigil, State Comptroller, p. 131 (FY 1933 and FY 1934). Mentions Lt. Governor plate having been issued for 1932. Also reports only 316 Guest plates sold for all of 1932. Page 34 reports number of Trailer plates sold in 1932.

Biennial Report of the State Comptroller for the Twenty-First and Twenty-Second Fiscal Years, Juan N. Vigil, State Comptroller, p. 131. (FY 1933 and FY 1934). Mentions Lt. Governor plate having been issued for 1933, but no mention of it for 1934.

Biennial Report of the Comptroller's Department ... for the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Fiscal Years, R.F. Asplund, State Comptroller, p. 17 (FY 1929 and FY 1930), and Biennial Report of the Comptroller's Department ... for the Nineteenth and Twentieth Fiscal Years, Juan N. Vigil, State Comptroller, p. 34 (FY 1931 and FY 1932). Reports number of Highway Department, Official and U.S. Official plates purchased for 1930 and 1931.

Reports of Federal Road and Highway Agencies

Office of Public Road Inquiries (OPRI) statistics. Reports of registration totals for all types of vehicles from 1900-1904.

Office of Public Roads (OPR) statistics. Reports of registration totals for all types of vehicles from 1905-1911 and 1917-1919.

Bureau of Public Roads (BPR) statistics. Reports of registration totals for all types of vehicles from 1924-1938 and 1950-1966.

Public Roads Administration (PRA) statistics. Reports of registration totals for all types of vehicles from 1939-1949.

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) statistics. Reports of registration totals for all types of vehicles from 1900-present, incorporating the earlier reports of the OPRI, OPR, BPR, and PRA, as well as those prepared by the FHWA itself.

New Mexico Highway Journal Articles

New Mexico Highway Journal, November 1923, p. 8. Reported colors of 1924 plates, including taxi plates, and plan to farm out the distribution of license plates to the counties.

New Mexico Highway Journal, December 1924, p. 15. Reported that representatives would be sent to several cities around the state for distribution of license plates.

New Mexico Highway Journal, November 1927, p. 14. Reported colors of 1928 Commercial Car plates and Commercial Truck plates.

New Mexico Highway Journal, December 1928, p.20. Reported license plate colors for 1929.

New Mexico Highway Journal, August 1929, p. 26. Reported colors of 1930 plates.

New Mexico Highway Journal, December 1930, p. 11. Photo of New Mexico State Highway Department vehicle with 1930 Official plate.

New Mexico Magazine Articles

New Mexico Magazine, October 1932, pp. 6-7. Story on Governor Seligman's 520-mile auto trip across New Mexico in 1932, from Colorado line to Texas line, made in one day. Car used was his wife's 1932 Cadillac with license plate number 1-111.

New Mexico Magazine, August 1933, p. 38. Story on license plate shop being set up at state prison.

New Mexico Magazine, 1935, p. 15. Story on W.A. "Chip" Chapman, falsely claiming that he was the holder of New Mexico's first license plate.

1932 License Plate Kickback Scandal

1922 Trinidad, Colorado City Directory. Shows King Frank Trione as salesman in that city at the same time as Edna L. Kerr and her son Walter were living there.

1920 U.S. Census. Information on Edna L. Kerr in Trinidad, Colorado, future wife of King Frank Trione.

1930 U.S. Census. Information on Manuel Gallegos, who became head of Motor Vehicle Dept. in 1932, and King Frank Trione, later sales representative for 1932 license plates. Showed Jake Lujan as sheep rancher.

Letter, William J. Barker, Chairman, Democratic State Committee, to Governor Arthur Seligman, February 19, 1932, informing the Governor of conflict of interest between King Trione and Jake Lujan.

Letter, Governor Arthur Seligman, to William J. Barker, Democratic State Committee Chairman, February 20, 1932, asking Barker, "what [do] you think is the best course to pursue?"

Individual letters from Governor Arthur Seligman to Comptroller J.M. Lujan, E.K. Neumann and J.A. McNabb, Jr., all dated May 2, 1932, regarding suspension of Lujan, Attorney General Neumann to investigate Lujan, and appointing McNabb as Comptroller for duration of suspension.

Letter from Maurice B. Shwayder, Shwayder Brothers, Inc., to Governor Arthur Seligman, May 20, 1932, pleading for state to pay monies overdue on 1932 license plates.

Report of Attorney General's Investigation of J.M. Lujan, State Comptroller, and His Dealings with Others in Connection with the Charges of Graft Made Relating to the 1932 Motor License Plate Contract and the Purchase of the Automobile Certificate Containers, prepared by New Mexico Attorney General E.K. Neumann, May 24, 1932.

Letter from Governor Seligman to J.M. Lujan, June 1, 1932, reinstating him to his position as Comptroller. (Lujan resigned the same day, however.)

Report of the Attorney General of New Mexico, January 1, 1933 to December 31, 1934, p.20. Reported that the lawsuit against Shwayder and Wood regarding the 1932 registration certificate

holders had been dismissed.

Colorado Statewide Marriage Index, 1853-2006. Shows remarriage of King Trione to Dera Kikk Flodung of San Luis, Colorado on May 19, 1932.

United States Social Security Death Index. Shows birth of first child of King Trione and Dera Kikk Flodung on October 7, 1932.

1940 U.S. Census. Information on King Frank Trione, sales representative for 1932 license plates. Showed Jake Lujan as cattle rancher and his wife Dolores as postmistress in Des Moines, New Mexico.

Mount Olivet Cemetery records, Wheat Ridge, Colorado. Show burial of King Trione there after his death in 1961.

Fairmont Cemetery records, Raton, N.M. Show burial of Jake Lujan there after his death in 1976.

City Directories (partial list)

Hudspeth's Albuquerque City Directory 1935

New Mexico State Business Directory 1942-1943 (arranged alphabetically by city)

Hudspeth's Albuquerque City Directory 1945-1946

Hudspeth's Albuquerque City Directory 1950

Hudspeth's Albuquerque City Directory 1954

Hudspeth's Roswell City Directory 1954

Hudspeth's Santa Fe City Directory 1957

Polk's Santa Fe City Directory 1989

Transcribed City Directories: The following statewide directories were transcribed by Billy Kiser while writing his book *New Mexico Trade Tokens*. This was accomplished by typing salient parts of the directories into word processor files. The originals of these transcriptions reside in the New Mexico Transportation History Project (NMTHP) archives. The transcriptions include the following:

1886 Directory (statewide; name of directory not recorded)

1888 McKenney Directory (statewide)

1893 New Mexico Directory

1897 J.A. Carruth Directory

1908 Directory - South (cities and towns of southern New Mexico)

1909-1910 Directory (name of directory not recorded)

1912 New Mexico Directory

1914 New Mexico Directory

1915 Directory (name of directory not recorded)

1917 Directory (name of directory not recorded)

1918 Directory (name of directory not recorded)

1919 New Mexico Directory

1920 Directory (name of directory not recorded)

Telephone Directories (partial list)

Business Telephone Directory 1930 for Arizona; El Paso County, Texas; New Mexico
Las Cruces Telephone Directory 1932
Santa Fe Telephone Directory March 1945

Miscellaneous Publications

New Mexico State Constitution, Article XX, Sec. 6, and Article V, Sec. 1. Covers procedures for inauguration of Governor and appointment of state officials.

1910 U.S. Census. Information on populations of New Mexico towns at that time.

“Minutes of Santa Fe City Council Meeting, November 1, 1910.” Details the enactment of Santa Fe’s municipal motor vehicle licensing ordinance.

Journal of the Senate, Proceedings of the First State Legislature, First Session, State of New Mexico, March 11 to June 8, 1912. Report on review and passage of Senate Bill No. 164 which became New Mexico’s first automobile licensing law.

First Report of the State Engineer of New Mexico, December 1, 1914. Reported on condition of New Mexico’s roads at that time.

Automobile Record A, 1915, for each county. Record of names of all automobile owners on their property tax rolls.

Engineering News-Record, May 25, 1922. Reports U.S. Bureau of Public Roads, showing that 22,711 motor vehicles were registered in 1921 (of which 152 were motorcycles).

Doña Ana County Records, Automobil[e] Record for 1922. County property tax assessments for automobiles in 1922.

1932 license plate mailing envelopes. Identify the issuing authority as J.M. Lujan, State Comptroller.

Message of Governor Arthur Seligman to the Eleventh Legislature of the State of New Mexico, January 11, 1933, pp. 6-7. Among other things, requested legislature create State Police force.

Letter from J.A. McNabb, Jr., Assistant State Comptroller, to Juan N. Vigil, State Comptroller, January 9, 1933. Gives information related to recipients of #0 and #1 plates of the time.

Revenue Collected and License Plates Issued to May 31st, 1936-1937, Motor Vehicle Division, Bureau of Revenue, June 8, 1937. Provided figures for the numbers of various types of license plates issued through May 31 of 1936 and 1937.

State of New Mexico Report of Bureau of Revenue for the Biennium July 1, 1949 to June 30, 1950. Has tables of numbers of different types of license plates issued for nine years, 1942 through 1950, inclusive.

Company correspondence, Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation, Beverly Hills, California, to Commissioner, Motor Vehicle Dept., Santa Fe, New Mexico, January 26, 1946, and October 1, 1953. Requests for Sample plates for motion picture use.

Radio Amateur Callbook Magazine, various editions 1953-present. Reference publications for lookup of Amateur Radio callsigns on Amateur Radio license plates. Now largely supplanted by equivalent on-line services.

New Mexico Office of the State Historian, Fairview Cemetery records, Santa Fe, N.M.

Letter, Lawrence S. Grebner, N.M. Department of Transportation, to Bill Johnston, February 10, 2012. Explains Highway Department maintenance district numbers which appear on Highway Department license plates.

Correspondence, John R. Wald Co. to Bill Johnston, September 5 & 6, 2013. Regarding the company supplying license plate manufacturing equipment to the New Mexico State Prison in 1933.

Charles Ilfeld Company, The : A Study of the Rise and Decline of Mercantile Capitalism in New Mexico, by William Jackson Parish, Harvard University Press, 1961, and from the Office of the New Mexico State Historian, Santa Fe, NM. Details on Louis C. Ilfeld and other members of the Ilfeld family.

Records of ALPCA Archivist Eric Tanner. Among many other things, provide serial number range of 1974 paper plates.

“No More Waffling – The Real Scoop on Prorate Backing Plates,” by Eric Tanner, *PLATES*, Automobile License Plates Collectors Association, April 2009. Details on Pro-rate backing plates.

“Prorate Backing Plates Used in Interstate Trucking – Bingo!,” by Eric Tanner, *Wheels of Time*, American Truck Historical Society, January 2012. Details on Pro-rate backing plates.

New Mexico Administrative Code, NMAC 18.15.3.8, December 30, 2011. Mandates replacement of Off Highway metal plates with 3" x 3" vinyl stickers.

Perpetual Calendar, *World Almanac*. (Found in all editions.)

The License Plate Book, 1991 edition, by Thomson Murray, edited by Michael Weiner. Rather than photographs, illustrations are line drawings rather than photographs, similar to those in MVD publications of the 1970s and 1980s. On p. 72, shows passenger plate KAK-001 reinstating “USA” on plates.

Publications of the Automobile License Plate Collectors Association (ALPCA)

Since its inception in 1954 ALPCA has produced an in-house publication for its members. Originally just a few loose mimeographed pages, by the early 1970s it had evolved into a true magazine format under the name *ALPCA Newsletter*. This title was used through 1999, changing to *ALPCA Register* at the beginning of 2000, continuing through October 2004. The current name, *PLATES*, appeared with the December 2004 issue. Published somewhat irregularly the first eight years, the magazine became a regular bi-monthly in 1962, a publication frequency which continues to the present day.

Aside from the appearance of several feature-length articles on New Mexico plates over the decades, a “Notes from the States” column was introduced in the mid-1970s and has appeared in every issue since. The “Notes” column reports the latest available news of interest from all the states and Canadian provinces, though there is not news to report from every jurisdiction in every issue. For New Mexico, these items are considered generally reliable, as most of them came from local newspaper articles, or from former New Mexico Department of Motor Vehicles employee Michael Wiener. Most, but not all, of the New Mexico articles and “Notes” items carried by the magazine are cited below.

All back issues of the magazine, from 1954 to present, are available to all ALPCA members for reading in digital format on the ALPCA website at www.ALPCA.org

ALPCA Magazine Feature Articles:

- “New Mexico, USA – Land of Enchantment,” October 1976, p. 73 (front cover), Michael C. Wiener. Overview of New Mexico plates, with b&w photos of a small selection of Passenger plates.
- “Plate Impressions, Land of Enchantment adds New Varieties, June 1981, p.60, Michael C. Wiener. A report on numerous new plate types introduced during the previous several years. Subjects and plate types discussed include: Cibola County creation; Congressional Medal of Honor; county name stickers / decals; Disabled Veteran; District Court Judge; Ex-Prisoner of War; general re-issue of passenger plates; Handicap (“wheelchair”); Handicap parking permit / placard; Horseless Carriage; Motorcycle plates, new style for 1982 introduction; Mounted Patrol 40th Anniversary; National Guard; Prorate; Rental Trailer; staggered registration; State Police; validation stickers / decals; vanity / personalized Motorcycle; vanity / personalized Handicap; Weight Distance; Weight Distance Farm Truck.
- “New Mexico – Land of Enchantment,” June 1987, p. 69 (front cover), Michael C. Wiener. Overview of New Mexico plates, color photos of a selection of Passenger and non-Passenger plates.
- “New Mexico Wins Best Plate!,” April 2011, p. 7, Gus Oliver.
- “New Mexico Mystery,” October 2011, p. 12, Bill Johnston. (New Mexico boat license plates of the 1950s.)
- “New Mexico Pre-States,” October 2013, p. 10, Bill Johnston.
- “Best Plate Award – Presentation in New Mexico a Success,” August 2018, p. 25, Gus Oliver.
- “New Mexico Passenger Car License Plates 1910–1920,” April 2020, p. 17, Bill Johnston.

“Notes from the States” news items:

- 1976 April** – Stickers for 1976 are red, white and blue, with the American flag.
- 1976 June** – More than 4,500 of the 1976 Bicentennial vanity plates have been sold to date.
- 1977 February** – Description of new dies introduced in October 1976; new format with USA eliminated; debossed border; county name sticker box; 1977 vanities are turquoise on white; general reissue in December 1977; will change from plate-to-car, to plate-to-owner, provided legislature approves.
- 1977 April** – Handicap (wheelchair) vanities now being issued; Transition from last old style plate BTM-999 to first new style plate BTN-001; New truck plates begin CA-5001; Passenger series plates CAA-001 - CBZ-999 have been manufactured.
- 1977 June** – General reissue planned for December will not occur, as legislature did not approve; 1978 Vanities will be red on yellow.
- 1977 December** – Now issuing third type of passenger plate on 1972 base; All passenger plates will be red on yellow (vs. red on white) beginning with CEA-001 (but see next item).
- 1978 February** – New red-on-yellow plates began with CCX-001, not CEA-001; Cost of manufacturing plates has increased; SAM-PLA plates in new colors are available for \$3 each.
- 1978 April** – Next general issue now delayed until 1980 registration year; Ex-Prisoner of War and Medal of Honor plates to be issued; legislation permitting motorcycle vanity plates has passed both houses.
- 1978 December** – First four Medal of Honor plates have been issued; More than 200 Ex-Prisoner of War plates have been issued; Vanity plates for 1979 will be yellow on blue.
- 1979 December** – Disabled Veteran plates are now being issued, according to the *Albuquerque Journal*.
- 1980 April** – Recent riots at New Mexico State Penitentiary did not damage plate manufacturing plant; National Guard plates were approved by the recent legislative session.
- 1980 December** – National Guard plates are now being issued in the format 123-ANG, where ANG signifies Army National Guard; Plates of the format RT-1234 are being issued to rental cars (but this information was wrong, as RT plates were for rental *trailers*); Vanity plates for 1981 will be red on yellow.
- 1981 April** – A bill has been introduced in legislature to authorize special plates for retired National Guard members; Current passenger serial numbers have exhausted AAA - DZZ and now will start E prefix; M prefix serial numbers for motorcycles are exhausted, will now switch to N prefix; 1981 stickers are green on white.
- 1982 April** – New plates with taller and thinner dies will be issued beginning April 1, 1982, Passengers will start EHA-001, trucks will start GE-0001; Sticker box will be larger to accommodate the new staggered registration stickers.
- 1983 June** – Stickers for 1983 are white on red.
- 1983 December** – Stickers for 1984 are white on blue.

1984 April – The position of the year and month have swapped places on the white-on-green 1985 stickers.

1984 June – A bill was introduced to authorize Purple Heart plates, but did not make it through the 1984 legislative session.

1985 June – 1986 stickers are white on black.

1986 June – Albuquerque newspapers report that City Councilor Michael Wiener is urging law enforcement to crack down on person driving with expired license plates.

1986 October – Michael Wiener has been appointed by Governor Tony Anaya to head a committee to design an official front plate commemorating the 75th anniversary of statehood.

1987 August – Stickers for 1988 are white on brown.

1990 June – A complete reissue of all plates will be accomplished between January 1991 and December 1993. The new plates will have a southwestern design, which since became to be known as the “yucca” plate. The first 200,000 will be made of steel, then a switch will be made to aluminum. Numbering format will be 123-ABC; Pearl Harbor Survivor plates are now on the road in small numbers; Collegiate plates have been approved by the legislature, but none have yet been manufactured.

1991 February – Last October the MVD determined that there would not be sufficient passenger car plates for the two months remaining in the year before the new graphic plates in the 001-AAA format were to be introduced. Consequently, 21,000 of the new graphic plates were made and issued in the old format from LKM-001 through LLL-999.

1993 October – Children’s Trust Fund (“Kids”) plates may soon be available. A bill introduced by State Senator Michael Wiener would prohibit the use of license plate frames on the state’s plates because they obscure part of the information thereon.

1993 December – The bill authorizing the Children’s Trust Fund plates was signed into law by Gov. King; All of the old exempt plates, e.g., HD, OF, XM, XC, will be replaced by the end of this year with the new “G” prefix state Government plates; New black-on-grey State Police plates manufactured in Texas are being issued to all State Police vehicles.

1994 June – The new Children’s Trust Fund (“Kids”) plates are now being seen on New Mexico’s roads.

1997 December – Some passenger plates in the “K” series are being seen on Trailer bases, i.e., without the yucca and Land of Enchantment slogan. This was thought to be an error, but see the item below.

1998 February – The passenger plates in the “K” series was not an error, but was done intentionally because of running out of the regular graphic sheeting for passenger plates. Approximately 40,000 plates in the KFH through KHM series were made with the trailer base sheeting.

1998 June – Lawmakers are considering legislation to eliminate most metal Dealer plates and replace them with cardboard plates. More than 20,000 Dealer plates are presently in use. (Note: this plan was ultimately put into place, eliminating all but a tiny number of metal Dealer plates. Vehicles now use paper “Demonstration” plates in their stead.)

1998 December – A leaky roof at the prison plate plant caused an electrical hazard necessitating shutdown of the facility from July 7 to August 9 of this year. During this period 42,000 New Mexico plates were manufactured in Arizona, some of them without the Zia symbol.

1999 February – The hot air balloon plate will soon be available. As of January 2, 1999 New Mexico motorists have the option of selecting either a one-year or a two-year registration period.

1999 June – All New Mexico plates are now being manufactured at Waldale in Amherst, Nova Scotia, Canada. Waldale won the contract with a bid of \$1.235 per plate, delivered, beating out the State Prison’s bid of \$1.37. The design continues as before, beginning at 001-MAA, with the only difference being dies that are 3/8" shorter. The State Penitentiary ran out of plates twice since June 1997, most recently in July 1998 when the state had to have 44,000 plates made at the Arizona, differing only in the shape of the bolt holes, those from Arizona having round holes. The optional regular issue balloon license plate went on sale April 30, 1999.

1999 August – The serial numbering system for the new balloon plates is explained.

1999 December – Over 100,000 balloon plates have now been issued, with serial numbers now switched to a more conventional 3-letter, 3-numeral configuration, beginning with CAA-001. There are complaints about the plates being hard to read, especially at night. Collegiate plates are now available, but no mention is made of which universities the plates are available.

2004 August – The Share With Wildlife plate is now available, featuring a picture of a Gambel’s quail.

2006 February – The New Mexico State University (NMSU) plate has been redesigned, with a description given. Initial cost is \$37.

2006 June – The Donate Life (Organ Donor) plate was expected to be available last month.

2006 October – The state’s current administration is considering a return to two license plates. (But this did not occur.) The Pet Care plate, also called the Spay-Neuter plate, is now available, some three years after it was authorized by the legislature.

2007 April – The Support Our Troops plates have been available since September 11, 2006.

2007 August – The Route 66 plate is now available.

2008 February – New Mexico’s new State Government plate is illustrated.

2008 June – A plate promoting the city of Las Cruces will soon be available, but only to residents of that city.

2008 December – The Breast Cancer Awareness plate is now available.

2009 June – The city of Las Cruces plates mentioned in this column a year ago were expected to finally be available in April of this year.

2009 October – A new optional turquoise statehood centennial plate will become available in January 2010, replacing the balloon plate. The yellow yucca plate will continue to be available. State law effective July 1, 2009 authorizes a special Gold Star license plate for certain close relatives of persons killed in the line of military duty.

2009 December – A survey of 9,000 persons found that 75% want the option of choosing whether to receive a yellow yucca plate or a turquoise centennial plate. The city of Las Cruces plates are finally available.

2010 April – Collegiate plates for Eastern New Mexico University and the New Mexico Military Academy are now available.

2010 August – Three more optional plates have become available: New Mexico Highlands University, Boy Scouts, and Adoption Awareness.

2010 December – An optional Bass Fishing plate, officially known as “Fish New Mexico,” is available.

2011 February – The Farm and Ranch Heritage plate became available on an optional basis on December 20, 2010.

2014 April – Approximately 28,600 personalized “vanity” plates are currently in use.

2015 February – A Purple Heart motorcycle plate is now available to qualified veterans.

2015 April – Lawmakers are looking at the possibility of authorizing some 15 optional “heritage” plates featuring designs that symbolize the heritage of the state of New Mexico, including cities, professions, wildlife, and so forth.

2016 June – The Share With Wildlife plate now has a picture of a mule deer on it, replacing the Gambel’s quail.

2016 October – The centennial slogan has been removed from the turquoise plates, as it is no longer timely. Not mentioned is the fact that the slogan remains on turquoise motorcycle plates. (And in fact, still remains on them in 2020.)

2017 April – A chile plate is now under consideration by the state legislature.

2017 June – New Mexico’s chile plate has beat out a plan by Colorado to usurp the title of “Chile Capital of the World” by issuing a similar plate. The chile plates are now one of three optional regular issue plates available to New Mexico motorists without charge beyond the usual registration fees.

2017 October – 20,000 of the new chile plates (which were released on July 10, 2017) were sold during the first month of their availability. Numbering started at AAAA00.

2017 December – License plates on New Mexico State Police vehicles are in the process of being replaced for the first time in ten years, using a new design featuring the NMSP uniform shoulder patch. A motorcycle version of the new plates is being issued as well.

2018 April – The state legislature is again considering switching back to having two plates on each vehicle, a system abandoned by the state 58 years ago.

2020 February – The University of New Mexico collegiate plates have been redesigned.

Website References

N.M. DMV website: <https://www.dmv.org/nm-new-mexico/boat-registration.php> Modern boat registration requirements.

<https://nmplates.com> Website of New Mexico Transportation History Project, NMplates.com

<https://www.qrz.com> On-line lookup of Amateur Radio callsigns on Amateur Radio license plates

<http://www.allaboutlicenseplates.com/athome.asp?State=New%20Mexico> New Mexico section of website prepared and maintained by ALPCA Archivist Eric Tanner. A vast source of statistical and other information on license plates, serial numbers, and other characteristics.