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**Donate Life's National DPS Appreciation Celebration**  
***Flag Raising Ceremony and Donate Life National Award Presentation***

Laredo (September 28, 2021) — [Donate Life's National DPS Appreciation Celebration](#) is a time to recognize and thank the staff at driver license offices across the country for their support and commitment to organ, eye, and tissue donation. A Donate Life Texas (DLT) Flag Raising Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, September 28<sup>th</sup> to honor the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) Driver License Division's staff for their support of the [Glenda Dawson Donate Life Texas Registry](#). In observance of the current pandemic and social distancing measures, the event is by invitation only and attendance will be kept to a minimum.

During the ceremony, Donate Life Texas will honor a driver license employee leader for their outstanding support of the Glenda Dawson Donate Life Texas Registry over the years, as well as supportive innovative efforts to promote awareness and appreciation amongst staff and the community during the pandemic. DLT presents the Innovation Award, on behalf of Donate Life America (DLA), to individuals who have gone above and beyond to increase registrations and raise awareness about organ, eye and tissue donation.

This individual has worked hard to increase registrations and promote organ, eye and tissue donation throughout Texas.

The 2021 DLA Innovation Award recipient includes:

- DLA - AAMVA Region 2 Innovation Award – Mimzie Herklotz-Dennis – Assistant Chief, Driver License Division
- DLA - AAMVA National Innovation Award – Mimzie Herklotz-Dennis – Assistant Chief, Driver License Division

Be sure to join us virtually at the ceremony on [DLT's Facebook Live page](#) as we honor our DPS partners for their support and commitment to organ, eye and tissue donation.

**What:** DPS Appreciation Celebration – Flag Raising Ceremony, Award Presentation and Media Event

**Who:** Transplant recipients, donor family members, healthcare professionals, donation advocates, DPS staff and the entire community are invited to participate *virtually*

**When:** In person – Invite only on Tuesday, September 28<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 a.m.

**Where:** Texas Department of Public Safety, 1901 Bob Bullock Loop, Laredo, TX 78043

“The ongoing partnership with the Texas Department of Public Safety’s Driver License Division remains the primary source of registrations,” says Chad Carroll, Executive Director, Donate Life Texas. “Approximately 83 percent of those registered have signed up through a transaction at a DPS driver license office. We could not have reached more than 13.4 million registered donors and saved and healed so many lives without our partnership.”

Right now, more than 107,000 people nationwide are waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant. More than 11,000 of these patients are from Texas.

Becoming a registered donor is easy and can have a tremendous impact. One donor can help save and heal the lives of more than 75 people with organ, eye, and tissue donation. It all starts with saying ‘yes’ at your local DPS driver license office.

The next time you’re at your local DPS driver license office, we encourage you to say, “thank you” and show your appreciation to those behind the counter who help us drive our mission forward, each and every day. Don’t forget, signing up is fast and easy at [DonateLifeTexas.org](https://www.donatelifetexas.org) and provides a way for individuals to make their decision to be an organ, eye and tissue donor known.

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### ***About Donate Life Texas***

*The Donate Life Texas organ donor registry started in 2005 and celebrated its Thirteenth millionth registration in 2021. The registry is supported by the Texas organ procurement organizations, LifeGift, Southwest Transplant Alliance and Texas Organ Sharing Alliance and the eleven eye and tissue banks serving the state.*

*Signing up is fast and easy at [DonateLifeTexas.org](https://www.donatelifetexas.org) and provides a way for individuals to make their decision to be an organ, eye and tissue donor known to the right people at the right time, automatically. It also provides legal consent for donation after death, which removes the burden of decision-making from the family during an already difficult time.*

*Donate Life Texas is part of the [Donate Life America](https://www.donatelifeamerica.org) not-for-profit alliance of national organizations and local partners across the United States, serving as a national voice and inspiring all people to save and heal lives through organ, eye and tissue donation.*