

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Alabama Department of Public Safety

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### STATE'S MOST SECURE DRIVER LICENSE DEBUTS JUNE 1

MONTGOMERY — Beginning June 1, Alabama driver licenses and identification cards will have a brand new look. The newly designed licenses will feature a number of technological advances and security features, making it the most secure license ever issued in the state.

“The Department of Public Safety is pleased to provide Alabamians with this new license. It is state-of-the-art and will be a valuable component in the Driver License Division’s ongoing efforts to ensure the integrity and security of driver licensing in our state,” according to Major Roscoe Howell, Driver License Division chief.

Howell said the license’s many technological advances and security features make it extremely tamper resistant and difficult to obtain fraudulently. A 2-D bar code and magnetic stripe on the back of the license contain demographic data from the license front, making the license resistant to false duplication. The license also includes digital photo and signature which are stored in a permanent database and easily retrieved to help verify identity.

Additional features of the new license include:

- A new vertical format for “under 21” driver licenses, identification cards and graduated driver licenses.
- Laminate coating and high-security material designed to increase the license’s durability and tamper resistance. The license front features an “optically variable” image of the state outline with text that changes color as one tilts the license.
- An image of the state seal on the license front that displays as a full-color fluorescent image when exposed to ultraviolet light.

Howell said production of the new licenses would begin June 1. He added that installation of additional equipment in support of the new driver license issuance system will begin later this summer at Public Safety, probate judge and license commissioner offices.

Additional information on Alabama’s new driver license may be found on Public Safety’s Web site [www.dps.state.al.us](http://www.dps.state.al.us).

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