



## INDIANA BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLES COMMUNICATIONS

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **BMV Announces Blue Envelope Program**

**PORTAGE, IN – April 1, 2025**—The Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) is proud to announce the launch of a new pilot initiative in two Porter County Branches aimed at enhancing communication between drivers on the Autism spectrum and law enforcement. This initiative reflects the BMV's dedication to fostering a supportive and safe environment for all drivers.

“The Blue Envelope Program, an initiative of the Portage Township Autism Action Coalition, was created in 2020 by Portage Township Trustee Brendan Clancy. We are thrilled the BMV agreed to be a partner in the Blue Envelope Program and help spread awareness, not only of autism but of the new program,” said Joyce Russell, Portage Township Community Outreach and Communications Coordinator and facilitator of the Portage Township Autism Action Coalition.

The pilot initiative will involve the installation of new communication tools, such as providing a blue envelope to the driver, containing tips for both the driver and police officer in case of a traffic stop. Additionally, a window cling will be placed on the rear driver's side window to alert police officers that someone in the vehicle is on the Autism spectrum.

The Blue Envelope Program materials are also available at the following locations:

- Portage Township Trustee's Office, 3590 Willowcreek Road, Suite B, Portage
- Portage Branch of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, 5916 U.S. Highway 6, Portage
- Valparaiso Branch of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, 1361 Morthland Drive, Valparaiso
- Burns Harbor Police Department, 1240 West North Boo Road, Burns Harbor
- Chesterton Police Department, 790 Broadway, Chesterton
- Hebron Police Department, 611 North Main Street, Hebron
- Kouts Police Department, 210 South Main Street, Kouts
- Portage Police Department, 6260 Central Avenue, Portage
- Porter County Sheriff's Department, 2755 Indiana State Road 49, Valparaiso
- Porter Police Department, 50 Francis Street, Porter
- Valparaiso Police Department, 355 South Washington Street, Valparaiso



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Commissioner Kevin Garvey shared his enthusiasm for the initiative: "All Hoosier drivers are important to us, and we hope this pilot helps create a better driving experience for everyone involved."

### **About the Bureau of Motor Vehicles**

The Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) is dedicated to providing exceptional service to all members of the community. With a focus on safety, education, and support, the BMV strives to create a welcoming environment for all drivers. Our mission is to ensure that every driver has access to the resources and information they need to navigate the roads confidently and safely. Through innovative programs and initiatives, we aim to enhance the driving experience and promote a culture of respect and understanding. The BMV is committed to continuous improvement and excellence in all aspects of our operations.

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