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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - July 26, 2006

## Media Advisory/Photo Opportunity

### JULY 28 MEDIA EVENT in MODESTO LAUNCHES MAJOR CHANGE to SIGN UP for ORGAN & TISSUE DONATION

**What:** The California Department of Motor Vehicles teams up with the Donate Life California Registry to bring Californians a new way to become organ and tissue donors. Beginning July 1, anyone who checks "Yes!" when applying for or renewing a driver license or I.D. card will be registered as an organ and tissue donor, with the potential to save eight lives and improve the lives of up to 50 others. For the first time, the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and the Donate Life California Organ & Tissue Donor Registry are teaming up, urging drivers and residents to add their names quickly and easily to the state's online donation database. **And for the first time since its introduction 30 years ago, the pink "donor" dot will be incorporated into each donor's license, rather than being a sticker on the outside.**

**Who:**

- **Carole Trifoglio** – A resident of Modesto, Carole is the mother of a liver transplant recipient. Her daughter Gigi Trifoglio was 12 years old when she suddenly became very ill. Gigi was diagnosed with liver failure and fortunately received her transplant quickly. Gigi is an active teenager and Carole volunteers with the California Transplant Donor Network to raise public awareness for the cause of organ donation and transplantation.
- **Rita Vasquez and Amparo Contreras** - Are on staff at the Transplant Network as a Community Affairs Coordinators and are responsible for public education and community outreach in the Modesto area.

Note: A Spanish-speaking media representative will attend.

**When:** Friday, July 28, 2006 – 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

**Where:** DMV office at 124 Burney Street, Modesto

**Background:** Donate Life California, which is responsible for the registry, is made up of the state's four federally-designated organ recovery agencies: California Transplant Donor Network (CTDN), serving Northern and Central California; Golden State Donor Services, serving the Sacramento metro area; Lifesharing, serving San Diego and Imperial counties; and OneLegacy, serving the seven counties around Los Angeles.

**Contacts:** California Transplant Donor Network: Rita Vasquez, (510) 418-0713, rvasquez@ctdn.org  
California Transplant Donor Network: David Heneghan, (510) 251-7005, dheneghan@ctdn.org  
Donate Life California: Tracy Bryan, president, (916) 473-0861 or cell (916) 417-1794, tbryan@dcids.org

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