

**August 26, 2009**

**Arlington man tabbed to lead new Texas Department of Motor Vehicles**



**Victor Vandergriff** of Arlington will serve as the first chairman of a new Texas Department of Motor Vehicles, state officials disclosed Wednesday.

Vandergriff, a businessman, will be the point man in a statewide effort to create the new agency beginning in November.

State lawmakers earlier this year voted to create a new DMV, to relieve some of the administrative duties -- such as issuing car registration stickers and transferring vehicle titles -- historically performed by the Texas Department of Transportation.

Lawmakers have been highly critical of the transportation department, making frequent allegations that highway funds have been mismanaged and the state's growing congestion problems have not been properly addressed. The thinking was that, if administrative functions were turned over to a new DMV, the transportation department would then have more time to focus on building roads and such.

**Bureaucratic alphabet soup:**

However, unlike motor vehicle departments in other states, Texas' DMV will not be responsible for issuing driver licenses. That responsibility will remain with the Texas Department of Public Safety, a statewide law enforcement agency.

**Bio:**

Vandergriff is also vice chairman of the North Texas Tollway Authority, a Plano-based state agency that is planning the Southwest Parkway toll road in Fort Worth. He is vice president of V.T. Inc. and Automotive Investment Group, the largest private retail automotive group in the U.S. He also oversees the Vandergriff dealerships in Tarrant County. He's also a lawyer specializing in business development, with a long history of civic involvement in Arlington and the surrounding area.

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-- Gordon.

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