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**Release Date: June 26, 2009**  
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## **NEVADA STATE HEALTH DIVISION**

### **NEWS RELEASE**

#### **Office of Vital Records Launches Electronic Birth Registration** **Reduces Issuance Time for Certified Birth Certificates from Months to Weeks**

*Carson City* – The Office of Vital Records recently launched Nevada’s Electronic Birth Registry System (EBRS). As phase three of the state’s Web-Enabled Vital Records Registry Systems (WEVRRS) project, EBRS is expected to speed up the process for registering births in the state and reduce the processing time for issuing certified birth certificates from months to weeks.

“This has been a long process, with phase one beginning in 2001, said Richard Whitley, Health Division Administrator and State Registrar. “Implementation of the electronic Death Registry in late 2005 and the recent launch of the Birth Registry culminate the redesign project. The Health Division staff involved in this project, particularly the Vital Records staff, are to be commended for their dedication and hard work throughout the entire process.” He continued, “Nevada is one of 57 jurisdictions participating in a nationwide effort to develop standardized, integrated vitals records systems. In addition to providing certified birth and death certificates more quickly, these systems can help to reduce fraud and identity theft.”

The Electronic Birth Registry System offers many benefits to the state, to the medical facilities responsible for registering births, and, most importantly, to anyone born in Nevada:

- The system is available 24/7 from any computer with Internet access, saving time and effort for medical facilities.
- Births are registered electronically, eliminating the submission of paper records via USPS.
- The required birth registration data are entered in an online, web-based, secure environment, greatly reducing the time necessary for registration processing.
- Issuance of certified birth certificates can now be done in two weeks, instead of two months.
- Processing amendments to birth certificates, such as adoptions, will now be completed in two weeks, versus three months.
- Since the user-friendly system permits real-time editing, fewer birth registration errors and higher quality vital statistics are expected.

(MORE)



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Approximately \$750,000 from the state General Fund was allocated for the implementation of the EBRS. Annual maintenance and support costs are projected to be \$50,000.

For information about the Office of Vital Records, please visit: <http://health.nv.gov/VS.htm>

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