

Alabama Department of Revenue eID Program: Authenticating Taxpayers with Biometrics

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Topics to be covered

- What problem were we attempting to address?
- Why did we select this solution?
- How does the eID program work?
- Outreach Campaign
- Results
- Observations
- What's Next?





What problem were we attempting to address?

• Accurately identify the actual taxpayer

• Streamline refund process

• Automate ID validation

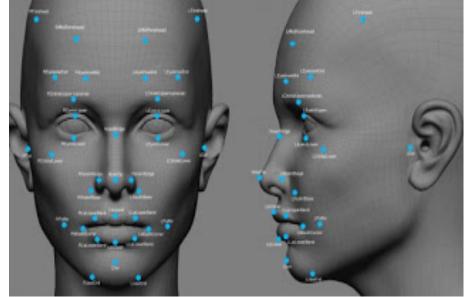




Why did we select this solution?

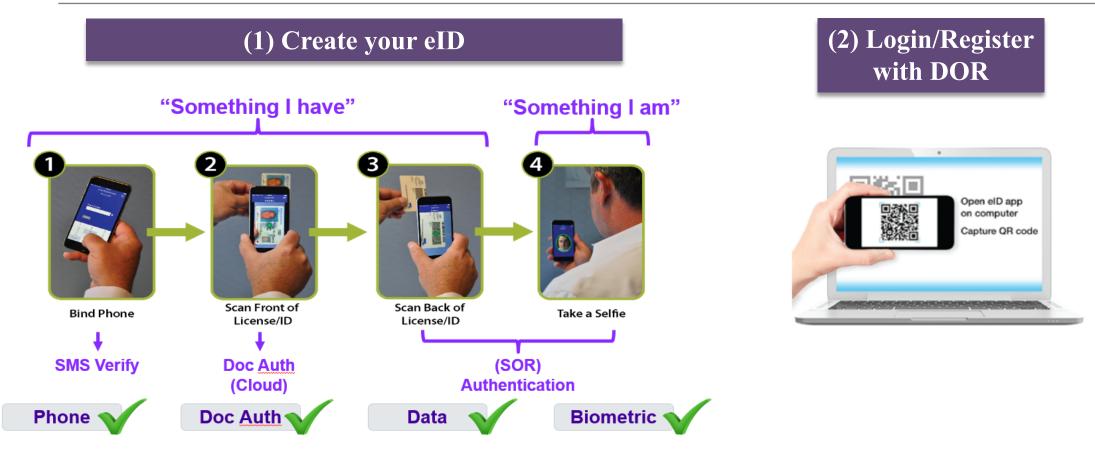
 Biometrics confirmed against DL database = high confidence level







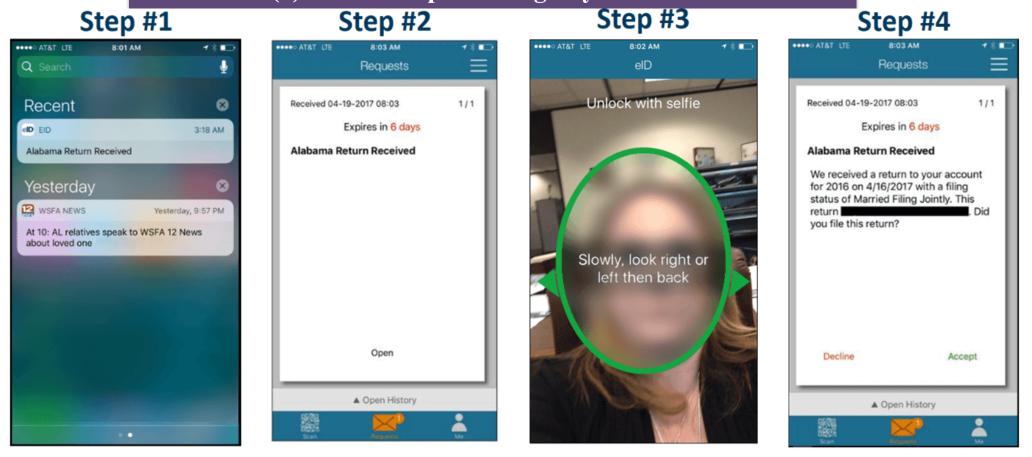
How does the eID program work?





How does the eID program work?

(3) Authorize processing of your return





Phased Rollout

•Phase 1: April 11, 2017- iOS version only

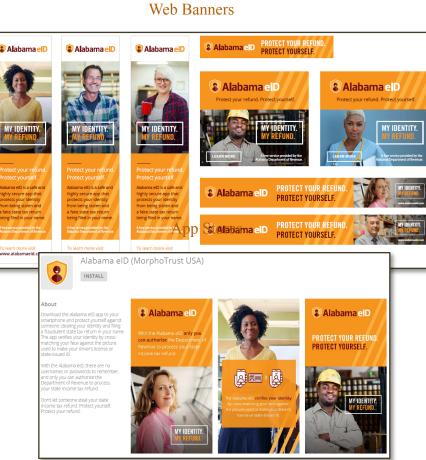
•Phase 2: January 2018- iOS and Android versions



Our Outreach Campaign

Brochure





CAMPAIGN TACTICS

- ✓ Digital Advertising
- ✓ Paid Search and Paid Social Media Advertising
- ✓ Media Relations
- Radio ads across 9 stations in 5 markets
- ✓ PSA aired in 5 television markets
- Exhibit space at Mercedes Benz Marathon Expo
- ✓ Brochures, Posters for community Tax Centers
- ✓ PSA videos for online and social



Results-Alabama eID Stats

Registration of eID with DMV (ALEA) *			Constraints
App iOS Android Total	Users Initiated Registration 4,636 1,113 5,749	Users Completed Registration 900 277 1,177	 Excluded Apple iPhones 8 & X Limited Android Device Support Outreach activities began on IRS e-file opening

*Information provided by Idemia as of 5/2/2018



Results- Alabama eID Stats

Registration of eID with ADOR			
Registered eID Users	796		
Return eID Alerts			
Awaiting Response	1		
Expired	378		
Rejected	0		
Verified	451		
Total Sent	830		
All eID Alerts (includes registrations, updated registrations and return alerts)			
Awaiting Response	2		
Expired	522		
Rejected	2		
Verified	1,214		
Total Sent	1,740		



Results- Alabama eID Stats

• Average time to approve refund – without eID-<u>27.1</u> days

• Average time to approve refund - with eID-10.9 days



Results-Resident Study

- 16% of residents were aware of the eID campaign
- Those aware learned of it from a tax professional or the news
- 60% of those aware went to DORs website, the marketing site or the app store to learn more
- Those unaware: 80% favorable impression of the service (willing or somewhat willing to download the app)

Other feedback

- Vehicle registration may be a good use of eID?
- Online credit or debit card payments, securing online shopping and other online government transactions would make sense



Results-Resident Study

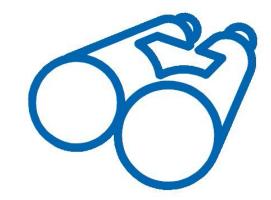
- Barriers uncovered:
 - Needed more info
 - Don't need it perception (I don't get a refund)
 - Already filed taxes
 - Could be glitches or security issues
 - No space for many apps on device
 - App only has 1 use today
 - Use a tax prep solution for submitting





Observations

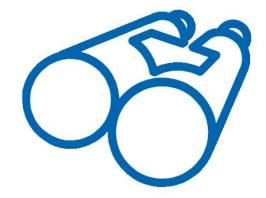
- Once eID registration begins (asking for user actions) we loose our first block of potential users (not a surprise and includes curiosity factor)
- We drop our next group around selfie/liveness
 o combination of expectation and usability of the feature
 - this is also where unsupported devices are stopped





Observations

- Surprising outcome... ~50% of those who have signed up submit their tax return for processing almost immediately
 - Doing taxes and eID at the same time to accelerate refunds vs. eID first and file later?
 - Does this mean we need to tweak the message??





• How do we increase the number of users?

- Earlier and more robust use of CPAs/Tax Preparation Service providers to drive awareness
 - Reinforced by study results





- Emphasize eID as an option for taxpayers asked to take an ID quiz
 - Those who were made aware of the service through the study demonstrated willingness and positive impressions.





- eID currently has a single use as Alabama-refund fraud tool
- Open up new opportunities to use eID that will create more user interest
- Set the stage for future online services and protective programs that require the assurance that people are who they claim to be and in full control of the process. (other DOR transactions)





• Tweak message

• Taxpayers who pay

• Anyone with an Alabama issued credential





What's Next?

• Improve selfie capture

• Make application available to users of all devices

• Permit registration with ADOR on same device







