NHTSA Seeks Expansion of State Notification of Recall Status Pilot

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is seeking expanded state involvement in the consumer notification of motor vehicle recall status pilot. Citing previous authorities delivered through Section 24105 of the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act (P.L. 114-94), as well as the authorities provided in the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act (49 USC 30101, et. Seq.) NHTSA has issued an Information Collection Request (ICR) describing a funding opportunity for all states to apply for a similar grant as that awarded to Maryland MVA in its initial recall notification pilot program. AAMVA members should note that the docket for the ICR is not meant to receive grant applications, but is instead an indicator that NHTSA expects to announce acceptance of applications through the grant process at a later date.

NHTSA cites that while this funding opportunity will be made available to all states, NHTSA has estimated for 20 state applications. AAMVA has confirmed with NHTSA that it will not be publishing additional comment opportunities through the Federal Register. Instead, NHTSA will transition directly to a notice of funding availability to solicit state grant applications. NHTSA cites that it is seeking creative and innovative proposals that, “provide vehicle owners and lessees with frequent notifications at touchpoints between the State and the vehicle. For example, NHTSA is interested in proposals that may offer options at the time of vehicle registration and other unique notification methods (or even follow-up notification). One potential option is to have notification at the time of registration and at motor vehicle emissions and/or safety inspection stations.”

Any jurisdiction wishing to submit comments to the ICR docket must do so by July 5, 2019. AAMVA welcomes a copy of those comments, submitted to governmentaffairs@aamva.org, so that AAMVA may reflect those comments in their own.