AAMVA Network Outage

On Monday (1/13) from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm EST, a significant outage occurred in AAMVA's IT network services. During this time, there was no ability to process messages that support transactions of driver licenses and motor vehicle titles. AAMVA will conduct a full analysis to determine the root cause of the outage.

- U.S. Driver's License Network Goes Down, Slowing DMV Offices across the Nation
- Colorado Driver License Offices Down
- Hours-Long Outage Impacts All Driver License Offices In Colorado
- Service Restored at All Colorado Driver's License Offices
- Nationwide Systems Outage Causes Problems Issuing Drivers Licenses (Kansas)
- Kansas Driver's License Offices Back to Processing Following Nationwide Outage
- Ky. Driver's License System down Due to Nationwide Outage (Kentucky)
- Kentucky Able to Issue Driver's Licenses Again after Nationwide Computer System Outage
- MVA Reports Issues With Driver's License Transactions (Maryland)
- Nationwide Outage Impacting Minnesota Driver's License Applications
- U.S. Driver's License Network Goes Down, Slowing DMV Offices Around The Nation (New York)
- DMV Service Outage Adds to Already Frustrating Waits for Long Islanders (New York)
- Nationwide Systems Outage Creating Long Lines At State Driver's License Branches (Illinois)
- Licensing Outage Affecting Rhode Island DMV
- License Services Restored at Rhode Island DMV
- Rhode Island DMV Says License Transaction Services Restored
- American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators Systems Cause Nationwide Outage (Tennessee)
- National Outage Hits TN Driver's License Offices (Tennessee)
- Tennessee Driver License Outage Repaired, Officials Say
- AAMVA: Systems restored after outage impacts Tennessee DMVs
- DMV Experiencing Outage Affecting Numerous Transactions (Virginia)
- DMV Service Restored Following Nationwide Outage (Virginia)
- Outages Resolved at Washington Driver's License Offices

Maryland Bill Would Stop Fee-Based Driver’s License

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Suspensions
A measure with bipartisan support in Maryland would stop the state from suspending a driver’s license due to unpaid traffic fines. Maryland Attorney General Brian Frosh supported the measure during a news conference on Wednesday with lawmakers. Read more at wmal.com.

Third Gender Option Now Available for Driver’s Licenses in New Hampshire
People in New Hampshire no longer need to select male or female on their driver’s licenses, WMUR reports. A new option is available for people who don’t identify as either sex. Read more at myfox8.com.

NY DMV to Hire More Workers, Increase Hours Amid Long Lines After Green Light Law Takes Effect (New York)
To accommodate growing lines and exorbitant wait times at New York DMV locations created by the new Green Light Law, hundreds of new workers are being employed, and hours are being extended throughout the state. Read more at dailyvoice.com.

State Withholds DMV Data from Police (New York)
State officials have blocked 59 police agencies from access to computerized motor vehicle data because they have yet to certify they will refrain from sharing the information with federal immigration enforcers. A spokeswoman...confirmed that New York police agencies were given a deadline ending last Saturday to sign a document known as a DMV Photo System agreement. Read more at pressrepublican.com.

Permits Soar as Undocumented Immigrants Get New York Driving Rights (New York)
The number of New Yorkers receiving learner permits skyrocketed since a state law took effect Dec. 15 allowing undocumented immigrants to seek driving rights, state records show. Some Department of Motor Vehicle offices said they have been inundated with people seeking learner permits because of the new Green Light Law, creating long lines and confusion for staff. Read more at uticaod.com.

Oklahoma Lawmakers Propose 'Make America Great Again' License Plate Design
Oklahomans may soon have the option to sport a "Make America Great Again" license plate, according to a new proposal from two state senators...There's also a "Keep America Great" option to reflect Trump's 2020 slogan. Read more at abc7chicago.com.

DMV Issues One Million Real IDs (Virginia)
The Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) has issued more than one million REAL ID-compliant driver’s licenses and identification cards..."The best advice I can give you is to not wait until the last minute to get your REAL ID and to come prepared with the proper documents," said DMV Commissioner Richard D. Holcomb. “You will save yourself time and possibly a return trip with a little advance planning. January is traditionally a slower month to visit DMV, so now is a great time to come in. We'll be happy to serve you.” Read more at villagenewsonline.com.

Big Changes for VA Drivers Could Include Fuel-Efficient Car Fee, Speed Cameras (Virginia)
New fees, speed cameras and a handheld cellphone ban are some of the measures on the horizon for Virginia drivers under a wide-ranging transportation bill proposed by Gov. Ralph Northam and Democratic leaders of the state’s General Assembly. The proposal also includes previously announced plans to end car inspections, raising the gas tax 4 cents per year for the next three years and indexing it to inflation thereafter, and cutting car registration fees approximately in half. Read more at wtop.com.

Pritzker Signs Law Ending Driver’s License Suspensions over Unpaid Parking Tickets (Illinois)
Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker signed into law Friday a measure to stop the state’s practice of suspending driver's licenses over most non-moving violations, like unpaid parking tickets. The General Assembly passed the legislation, known as the "License to Work Act," with bipartisan support in late October. It will take effect on July 1. Read more at nbcchicago.com.

Illinois to Begin Replacing Pickup Truck Plates in 2020
Trucks in Illinois with older license plates will soon need new plates, Secretary of State Jesse White announced Friday that his office will begin phasing out the oldest B-Truck plates beginning this month...The older plates pose a challenge for law enforcement to read quickly, White said. Read more at thecentersquare.com.

New Kansas License Plate Features Wind Turbines
Kansas will begin issuing new personalized license plates Wednesday that celebrate the state’s status as a power player for renewable energy..."Kansas is a leader in alternative energy, and this plate helps feature the fact the state has a long history of adopting technology that shapes the future," said Mark Burghart, secretary for the Kansas Department of Revenue. Read more at pratttribune.com.

Alaska’s First Mobile DMV to Visit New Stuyahok
The state's first mobile DMV opened in New Stuyahok in Southwest Alaska on Monday. Residents in the village will be able to take their driver's license tests and apply for Real IDs...More than 40 people from New Stuyahok, Ekwok, Koliganek and Manokotak are expected to show up Monday...BBNC and the state DMV expect to expand the program to more villages after the test run in New Stuyahok. Read more at alaskapublic.org.

Arizona Ending Energy-Efficient Plate Program in March
Arizona is ending the Energy Efficient Plate Program on March 2. The reason given by the Department of Transportation is that congress failed to extend a deadline on a law that expired in September of last year that authorized the unrestricted use of HOV lanes by certain hybrid vehicles...ADOT posted on their website that current owners are allowed to use continue to use the HOV lane in their current vehicles, but the plate will no longer be transferred with the title. Read more at abc15.com.

Wildfire Tech, Cybersecurity Upgrades in California's 2020 Budget
While the $222 billion budget proposed by California Gov. Gavin Newsom focuses most prominently on addressing the state's shortages of teachers, housing and health care, it also includes several new allocations for technology programs that promise to improve network security and augment emergency response for a state with an ever-widening wildfire season...The California Department of Motor Vehicles,
which has struggled with its computer systems in recent years, will receive an extra $200 million, mainly to address long-term systems upgrades and provide temporary staffing as the state faces an October deadline for Real ID. Read more at statescoop.com.

LA's Controversial New Voting Machines, Plane Dumped Fuel Over Playground, and Impeachment Preview (California)

2020 is going to be a make-it-or-break-it year for a lot of things. Count among them —the California DMV. Now, some of you may already think it's "broken," but Governor Gavin Newsom has a plan to make sure that by this year, the department is remade. And there's a lot on the agenda. Listen at scpr.org.

Sen. Guthrie Shelves Driver's License Bill for Undocumented Immigrants (Idaho)

Getting to work every day and caring for children can prove dangerous for many undocumented people in rural Idaho who drive without a license. In the session's first week, it appeared the Legislature would discuss a bill that would allow undocumented people to apply for a license, but the plan has since been shelved. Read more at magicvalley.com.

Transportation Hubs Working to Combat Human Trafficking (Nevada)

January is human trafficking awareness month and our local transportation hubs are doing their part to reduce trafficking operations in our community. Like any business, human traffickers rely on many forms of transportation to move their victims. Read more at kolotv.com.

Nevada DMV Provides Tips Ahead of Oct. 1 Real ID Compliance Deadline

It's January 2020, and that means Nevada and U.S. residents have less than 10 months to make their driver's licenses and state identification cards compliant under the 2005 REAL ID Act, if they choose..."We're hoping to avoid a big crunch at the end," said Kevin Malone, spokesperson for the Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles, "so if you need one, come on in and get it now if you need it by October 1st." Read more at 8newsnow.com.

Don't Have Your 'Gold Star' Utah Driver's License? You Might Want to Check Your Address

Utahns need a gold star on their driver's license, but not everyone has received their new card in the mail. Officials are in the process of putting gold stars on driver's licenses and mailing them to residents but are still having trouble getting the correct address for everyone. Read more at ksl.com.

Utah Is Investigating a Vanity License Plate Reading 'DEPORTM'

A vanity license plate reading "DEPORTM" has raised concerns in a Utah after a photo of the plate was posted on Twitter...Representatives from the DMV and the Tax Commission are scheduled to attend the meeting, meant to explore how decisions granting or denying personalized license plates are made. Read more at cnn.com.

DOT's Elaine Chao Announces ADAS, Connected
Technology Programs
Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao announced several initiatives relating to connected vehicle technologies and advanced driver assistance systems before a crowd of industry representatives Jan. 15. During her remarks at the Transportation Research Board’s annual meeting, Chao announced a new pilot program to deploy "vehicle-to-everything" (V2X) communication systems around the country to help prevent accidents involving first responders...Additionally, DOT is endorsing a standardized list of recommended ADAS terminology called “Clearing the Confusion.” ...Chao also announced a substantial expansion of the agency’s Partnership for Analytics Research in Traffic Safety, or PARTS, program. Read more at ttnews.com.

MSF to Bring Motorcycle Safety Awareness to Lifesavers Conference
Motorcyclist safety will be the focus of a session at the largest gathering of highway safety professionals in the United States. Dr. Ray Ochs will showcase the Motorcycle Safety Foundation's recent efforts at the 2020 Lifesavers National Conference on Highway Safety Priorities, March 15-17 in Tampa, Florida. Read more at blog.motorcycle.com.

FMCSA Seeks Comments for New Large-Truck Crash Causation Study
The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration on Jan. 14 issued a formal request for public comment on how best to design and conduct a major study to identify factors contributing to all large-truck fatal, injury and tow-away crashes. The Large Truck Crash Causal Factors Study would replace a 15-year-old crash causation study that the agency has used to buttress some of its policy decisions. Read more at ttnews.com.

Young Driver Survey (NHTSA)
The over-representation of young drivers in crashes and road fatalities is a serious public health concern and imposes substantial human, social, and economic costs. Contributing factors to crash risk include exposure, inexperience, distraction, recklessness, and social influence from peer passengers. Fortunately, young driver motor vehicle crashes are preventable, and proven strategies can improve the safety of young drivers on the road. The Young Driver Survey explored traffic safety attitudes and beliefs of young people 16 to 21 years old residing in Florida, Georgia, Massachusetts, Nebraska, and Oklahoma. This questionnaire explored issues with the driving experiences of younger drivers and identified key challenges to safety measures. About 18,000 respondents (n = 17,698) completed the survey. Read more at rosap.ntl.bts.gov.

TWITTER NEWS
@AAMVAConnection has been watching the twitter feed and decided to highlight some of the tweets here. Links are provided within most of the tweets, and we have also provided a link to each tweet as well. Note that you do not have to have an account or sign in to Twitter to view the message posts, images associated with the post, and the reach of the message (retweets, favorited, etc.).

Stay on top of the chatter in the MVA and LE community. You may be surprised at what you’re missing! Follow @AAMVAConnection.

Check out recent @AAMVAConnection Twitter action.

***Thank you for the @AAMVAConnection mentions!***
CT DMV @CTDMV | View the Tweet

Congrats to the #CT DMV Team on their award from the Office of @AGWilliamTong for "Client Agency of the Year."

Our colleagues in the Attorney General's office honored us for our work with them to address a variety of legal challenges on behalf of CT. Thank you for the honor!

Daniela Pardo @danielapardotv | View the Tweet

On @CA_DMV, Newsom announces new leadership with focus on customer. Says wait times for those without appointment went from 130 minutes (July 2018) to 33 minutes (November 2019) #CABudget

DC DMV @dcdmv | View the Tweet

Director Robinson participates on “Back to Basics” panel discussion at Mayor Bowser’s 2020 Accountability Report event held at Gallaudet University today.
Fort Lauderdale PD @FLPD411 | View the Tweet

#FLPD stands beside @FLHSMV, @EmeraldTowing and @MyFDOT_SEFL this morning for a very important reminder—Slow Down and #MoveOver for emergency vehicles. Lives depend on it.

MD_MVA @MD_MVA | View the Tweet

Happy #GetToKnowYourCustomersDay! We went out and about to try and learn more about the people we serve. #MDOTScenes
Massachusetts RMV @MassRMV | View the Tweet

& here's a great book we give parents to help them teach their teens:
http://www.eregulations.com/driving/massachusetts/ …

NDHP @NDHighwayPatrol | View the Tweet

Interested in CMV work the NDHP performs? Follow Trooper Cody Nuenthel @TrooperCody1. He is assigned to Motor Carrier Operations and is stationed in Northeastern ND.

Actual* picture of fellow motorist visibility as you pass in a snow-covered left lane on a windy day. Be kind to each other. A snow fog situation is horrifying. Think twice about passing.

*This is just a white square, but you get the idea. 🙏
Utah Public Safety @UtahDPS | View the Tweet

For #ThrowbackThursday we’ve got an 80 year old driver’s handbook from 1940. What’s more striking than the 25 cent fee for a license is the relevance of the 10 commandments for safe driving that appeared on the back - all are still great advice all these years later! #tbt

VirginiaDMV @VirginiaDMV | View the Tweet

Thank you for having us, @RepWexton! Our mobile services are a wonderful alternative to visiting a DMV office, especially for REAL ID. So glad to assist so many customers on Saturday! #VADMVmobileservices

Thank you to the AMAZING @VirginiaDMV mobile team for bringing DMV services directly to #VA10 constituents—completing 245 transactions—during today's special REAL ID event at my Sterling district office.

Couldn’t make it? Learn more about REAL ID here: dmvNOW.com/REALID