February 19, 2021

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Save the Date for AAMVA's 2021 Virtual Workshop & Law Institute

Save the date to join us for AAMVA’s 2021 Virtual Workshop & Law Institute from March 16-18. The Workshop will be hosted on a new and innovative virtual platform this year! This unique event provides AAMVA members with an intimate and collaborative digital environment to network and learn from fellow motor vehicle and law enforcement colleagues across North America. Attendees will have the opportunity to hear from fellow jurisdictions and meet with industry organizations that provide the products and services you need. The three-day schedule is packed with sessions covering hot topics in the motor vehicle and law enforcement community.

Jurisdiction Response to COVID-19

Click here to view consolidated information and see how motor vehicle administrations are handling driver licensing and vehicle registration. This document will be updated with the most current information on our homepage.

Motor Vehicle Industry Response to COVID-19 Pandemic

Below is a selection of news articles regarding the effects of coronavirus on the motor vehicle community.

COVID-19 | NATIONAL NEWS COVERAGE

- Here's How Severe Weather Is Affecting COVID-19 Vaccinations In These States
- Understanding the Global Distribution of a Cure in Real-Time
- Scanning Every Vehicle Could Cause Border Backups
- CSG Announces National Healthy States Task Force and Future of Work Task Force Findings
- FEMA Supports Vaccine Distribution: COVID-19 Response Update
- Trucking Bankruptcies Surged in 2020 as Pandemic Hit Small Carriers
- House T&I Hearing on 'Lessons Learned' From COVID-19
MARCH

16-18 | 2021 Virtual Workshop & Law Institute

APRIL

5 | 2021 April AAMVA Combined Standing Committees Meeting
21-22 | 2021 April Board of Directors Meeting

COVID-19 | REGION 1 NEWS COVERAGE

- Breathe It In: A New Study Says Canadian Air Quality Improved Early In The Pandemic
- See Coronavirus Restrictions and Mask Mandates for All 50 States
- FMCSA Extends Emergency Declaration Through May 31

COVID-19 | REGION 2 NEWS COVERAGE

- Time Stands Still: No New CT Driver's License Photo for 16 Years? (Connecticut)
- 'Check Ya Stickah': More Than 584,000 Massachusetts Vehicles Have Expired Inspection Stickers

COVID-19 | REGION 3 NEWS COVERAGE

- NCDMV Has New Employees, Adding (Contactless) Road Test Back for First Time Drivers (North Carolina)
- NC Driver's Education Bill Would Allow Third-Party Groups To Provide DMV Road Tests (North Carolina)
- Governor Stitt Signs Executive Order To Speed up Driver's License Renewal (Oklahoma)

COVID-19 | REGION 4 NEWS COVERAGE

- DVS To Offer Saturday Hours To Process License and ID Renewals (Minnesota)
- DMV Mistakenly Issues Driver's License With Photo of Woman Wearing Face Mask (California)
- Golf Carts and Low-Speed Electric Vehicles During COVID-19 (California)
- How Long Do You Have To Renew a California Driver's License? (California)
- Hawaii Extends Driver's License Renewal Deadline To April (Hawaii)
- Vision Certificate Required When Renewing Driver's License by Mail (Hawaii)
- Grace Period Continues for Expired Driver's Licenses (Oregon)
- WYDOT Seeks Flexibility In Vision Testing (Wyoming)

Visit cdc.gov for more information on COVID-19, guidance, press releases, press kits, and more.

REGION 1 NEWS

MVA Warns of REAL ID Text Messaging Scam (Maryland)

The MVA is warning residents of a Real ID text messaging scam that's been circulating recently...The MVA says they're in the process of trying to have it taken down. They advise to not click on the link and to immediately delete the message. Read more at wmar2news.com.

Senator Gallivan Introduces Legislation Where Driver’s License Holders Must Opt-out or Automatically Become A Donor (New York)

Senator Patrick M. Gallivan (R-C-I, Elma) has introduced legislation to increase the number of residents who are organ and tissue donors. The bill would amend New York’s vehicle and traffic law. Unless those who are applicants for driver’s licenses, learner permits and identification cards opt-out

Pennsylvania Democrats Propose New Bill for Undocumented Immigrants to Obtain Driver’s License
Pennsylvania Democrats have proposed House Bill 279, which would amend state law to grant a driver’s license without a Social Security number, enabling undocumented immigrants to receive a learner’s permit or a driver’s license, by using just their taxpayer identification number and some additional documents. Read more at natlawreview.com.

New Testing Requirement To Renew Expired Florida Driver’s License
There’s a new law in Florida that will impact drivers whose license has expired for an extended period of time, according to Escambia County Tax Collector Scott Lunsford. Read more at northescambia.com.

Stricter Absentee Voter ID Rules Advance To Georgia Senate
Georgia senators sent legislation to boost identification requirements for absentee voters to the state Senate floor Thursday in a committee vote along party lines. Read more at augustachronicle.com.

How Obtaining Identification Can Complicate the Road From Prison (Louisiana)
For men and women coming out of prison every year, one of the first steps to re-entering society can be one of the most difficult: simply getting a valid ID. Read more at pbs.org.

DOTD: Waivers From Federal Safety Regulations for Trucking in Effect in Louisiana
Governor Edwards’s recent declaration due to the winter weather is set to stay in place until March 12. Until then, federal safety regulations have been waived for truckers in Louisiana, according to DOTD. Read more at myarklamiss.com.

Texas Department of Transportation Warns of ‘Fuel Shortage’ in Parts of the State
The Texas Department of Transportation is warning drivers of a “fuel shortage” affecting parts of the state. “Parts of Texas have fuel shortages,” the department said. “If you must drive, top off before you hit the road.” Read more at ksat.com.
Driving Cards for Undocumented Hoosiers Could Help the Economy, Study Says (Indiana)
A bill that aims to allow thousands of undocumented immigrants living in Indiana to drive legally could reduce the rate of hit-and-run incidents, increase revenue for Indiana auto insurance companies and increase state revenue and improve law enforcement community relations, a study shows. Read more at indystar.com.

Manitoba Discarding Enhanced IDs for US Entry
Manitoba Public Insurance will phase out two identification cards that let people enter the United States. Due to a lack of interest, MPI is discontinuing the enhanced driver's licences and enhanced identification cards sometime in 2022. Read more at cbc.ca.

Speed Limit Bill Crashes in House (North Dakota)
The State House crashed a bill to lift the interstate speed limit to from 75 mph up to 80 mph. The concern among law makers and law enforcement is the inevitable evolution of drivers doing an additional five miles per hour on top of the additional speeds. Read more at kfyrtv.com.

CA DMV Halts Data Transfers With Third-Party Company After Security Breach (California)
The California Department of Motor Vehicles announced Wednesday that a third-party company it shares data with has had a security breach. It is unclear if any DMV information was compromised at this time. Read more at kcra.com.

DMV Recruiting for Project Director for REAL ID (California)
The position is a Career Executive Assignment, with the project director being the agency’s point of contact with the Governor’s Office as well as other state and federal agencies. Read more at techwire.net.

New Bill Would Provide Released Prisoners With a State ID or Driver's License (California)
On Tuesday, a bill that would require the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to provide a California Identification card or driver's license to every person released from state prison was introduced in the Assembly. Read more at californiaglobe.com.

Internet Reacts To Funny Utah Traffic Sign
Internet users across the nation are reacting to Utah’s traffic sign, Friday. On February 12, a Twitter user shares a snap of a UDOT traffic sign, which is now garnering a lot of attention across the internet. Read more at abc4.com.

Bill Would End Driver's License Suspensions Over Unpaid Fines (Washington)
Lawmakers in Washington state have proposed a measure that would prevent a driver’s license from being suspended if a person cannot pay or respond to a traffic ticket. Read more at komonews.com.

**OTHER NEWS**

**FMCSA Issues Winter Storm Emergency Declaration**
The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration has issued a winter storm emergency declaration that gives regulatory relief for motor carriers providing direct assistance to 33 states and the District of Columbia. Under the emergency declaration that was issued Wednesday, Feb. 17, motor carriers and drivers providing direct assistance to the emergency in the affected states related to the severe winter storm are granted relief from Parts 390 through 399 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations. Read more at landline.media.

**Congress Makes Renewed Push on Self-Driving Cars Bill**
Lawmakers on Capitol Hill are making a renewed effort this year to pass legislation that would create federal safety and security standards for autonomous vehicles. Congressional efforts to regulate autonomous vehicles have largely been bipartisan, but bills in both the House and Senate have struggled to advance over concerns about safety provisions. Read more at thehill.com.

**Webinar: Giving Voice To Digital Identities Worldwide**
Join Science Media Partners’ Festival of Identity and the Secure Identity Alliance for a groundbreaking webinar - providing insights into how governments around the globe are unlocking the potential of digital ID to support the delivery of innovative and inclusive services for citizens. Read more at app.livestream.com.

**Buttigieg Sets Goals for Electric, Automated Freight Vehicles**
Newly sworn-in Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg is planning to embark on ambitious priorities for electric and automated freight fleet vehicles as part of the Biden administration’s overall goals for combating climate change. Read more at thehill.com.

**OOIDA Supports FMCSA’s Proposal To End Duplicative Regulation**
The Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association showed support for FMCSA’s proposal to eliminate a “duplicative” regulation that requires drivers to submit a list of traffic convictions to their employers. In formal comments filed on Friday, Feb. 12, OOIDA said it agreed with the agency that the redundancy should be eliminated. Read more at landline.media.

**IIHS Study Tells Why Women Have Higher Injury Risk in Car Crashes**
The not insignificant risk of being involved in a serious car crash is one of the
hard truths of life for those who rely on cars for fun and transportation... What's disturbing is that, although men get in more car crashes, women are more likely to be injured. A new study from the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) explains the discrepancy, and it's not physiological. Read more at caranddriver.com.

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**Study: Average EV Owner Drives Half as Many Miles as Other Drivers**

Electric-vehicle drivers put about half as many miles on their cars as the average driver. At least, that's what a new study, conducted by researchers working for the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), is estimating. Read more at caranddriver.com.

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**Inhalation of Two Prop 65-Listed Chemicals Within Vehicles May Be Associated With Increased Cancer Risk**

Chemicals are listed on California’s Proposition 65 (Prop 65) for their potential to cause cancer, birth defects or other reproductive harm, and certain chemicals from this list are often detected within interior vehicle dust and air. Read more at sciencedirect.com.

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**IRS Warns of E-file Identity Theft Scam**

The Internal Revenue Service alerted tax professionals Wednesday about a dangerous new phishing scam in which a cybercriminal is sending emails claiming to come from the IRS in an effort to steal Electronic Filing Identification Numbers (EFINs). Read more at accountingtoday.com.

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**TWITTER NEWS**

Stay on top of the chatter in the MVA and LE community on social media. You may be surprised at what you're missing! Here are a few highlights of last weeks’ activity.

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† † VermontDMV Retweeted

**Def Deaf Girl @DeafConfessions | View the Tweet**

Another win for the #deaf and #HardOfHearing community!

The Vermont Department of Motor Vehicles, @VTDMV announced that they will offer communication support devices, called UbiDuo 3 (@sCommNews), to deaf and hard of hearing customers.
AR State Police @ARStatePolice | View the Tweet

INTERSTATE CRASH LEADS TO CHAIN REACTION; STATE TROOPER NARROWLY ESCAPES SERIOUS INJURY

An Arkansas State Trooper narrowly escaped serious injury this morning when the trailer of a commercial carrier jackknifed.....
https://t.e2ma.net/message/3cc7ie/77q2q0p

FLHSMV @FLHSMV | View the Tweet

If you're involved in a crash, it's the law to #StayAtTheSceneFL. Don't make a bad situation worse by fleeing.

Thank you @fox35orlando for covering the important topic of hit-and-runs.
KY State Police @kystatepolice | View the Tweet

Great advice from our friend @CaptScottMoore from @wilsonsheriff office in Tennessee!

Have you been a victim of an "ice missile" or have you contributed to the problem by not removing ice from your hood and/or the roof of your vehicle?

PLEASE remove the ice and save someone's life. This is a real issue!

OH Bureau Motor Vehicle @Ohio_BMV | View the Tweet

"Securing this grant allows us to enhance and improve this important consumer protection element," said BMV Registrar Charles Norman.

Wisconsin DOT @WisconsinDOT | View the Tweet

@GovEvers and #WisDOT leadership honored 77 @wistatepatrol officers and employees for their courage, dedication and public service last night. Learn more about this year's award recipients: http://bit.ly/StatePatrolAwards. Watch the awards video here:
Iowa DOT @iowadot | View the Tweet

Deaf or hard-of-hearing? You can request a hearing status indicator on your driver's license or ID card. This status is also noted in the database used by law enforcement to make your interactions more successful.

Montana Highway Patrol @MTHwyPatrol | View the Tweet

Roses are red
Violets are blue
If you ever need us,
We'll be here for you.
#HappyValentinesDay
Graphic: Trooper TJ Templeton
Nevada DMV @NevadaDMV | View the Tweet

Congrats to DMV Tech Kenneth Falconer, the first Nevada Employee Veteran of the Month. Kenneth has a military career including 5 tours in Afghanistan and Iraq. He also served Nevadans directly during Operation Warp Speed. See the news release: https://dmvnv.com/news/21001-veteran-of-month.htm