



American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators

aamva.org

movemag.org

OUR SPONSORS



Interested in having your logo appear here? Become a Regional News sponsor by contacting [Rob Stershic](#), 703.908.2825.

OUR EVENTS

MARCH



SYSTEMS TRAINING

*Register for the following training sessions [HERE](#).

MARCH - CDLIS

3 | [CDLIS Reports Timeliness \(intermediate\)](#)

4 | [CDLIS Reports Data Quality \(intermediate\)](#)

5 | [CD90.4.1 Out-of State Transaction as SOR Reports \(advanced\)](#)

We Need Your Help to Redesign Our Website!

AAMVA is redesigning its website. As part of that initiative, we are gathering feedback from users so we can create an easy-to-navigate, mobile-friendly, and highly-searchable website. Whether you are a frequent visitor or have browsed the website only once, we want to hear from you. Please take our [short survey](#). It only takes 10 minutes to complete, and your input will be invaluable to this important project.

REGION 1 NEWS

ICE Has Access to Maryland Driver's License Records. State Lawmakers Want to Limit It.

Armed with new evidence that federal immigration officials accessed a state database of licensed Maryland drivers dozens of times in the last two years, state lawmakers are proposing legislation to limit their access in the future...The bill, backed by Democrats, would force U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents to get a warrant if they want to run images of targeted individuals through the Maryland Image Repository System, known as MIRS, which holds the motor vehicle records and driver's license pictures of millions of residents and allows image comparisons using facial recognition software. [Read more at baltimoresun.com](#).

Time to Put the Phone Down: Driving Law Started Sunday (Massachusetts)

After being struck by a person texting while driving last April, suffering a concussion, whiplash and neck pain, Diane Opalenik of South Hadley understands only too well the need to crack down on motorists using their phones...A decade after Massachusetts adopted a law prohibiting drivers from reading and sending texts with their cell phones, the state is banning drivers from holding electronic devices while operating motor vehicles. The new law began Sunday. [Read more at recorder.com](#).

'Keep Them Safe': NY Governor Announces Measure to Protect Highway Workers (New York)

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D) has included a measure in his Fiscal Year 2021 Executive Budget that would impose tougher criminal penalties for violent acts against highway workers. Under the Slow Down and Look Out for Highway Workers and Pedestrians Act of 2020 (SLOW Act), a violent act against highway workers, vehicle inspectors or motor carrier investigators – currently a third-degree assault, which is a Class A misdemeanor – would be considered a second-degree assault, a Class D felony. [Read more at safetyandhealthmagazine.com](#).

10 | [CDLIS Reports Identifying Potential Issues SDLA \(advanced\)](#)

11 | [CDLIS Reports Identifying Potential Issues Qtrl OP \(advanced\)](#)

24 | [ACD Basic \(basic\)](#)

25 | [ACD Advanced \(advanced\)](#)

26 | [ACD Using Specific Codes \(advanced\)](#)

31 | [CDLIS 10 Year History \(intermediate\)](#)

MARCH - SPEXS

2 | [SPEXS Overview \(basic\)](#)

3 | [SPEXS Transactions AMIE \(intermediate\)](#)

4 | [SPEXS Transactions NIEM \(intermediate\)](#)

5 | [SPEXS Batch Inquiry \(intermediate\)](#)

9 | [SPEXS Bulk Load \(intermediate\)](#)

11 | [SPEXS SPM \(intermediate\)](#)

12 | [SPEXS WEB UI and Reports \(intermediate\)](#)

MARCH - PDPS

17 | [PDPS Broken Pointer Management \(intermediate\)](#)

18 | [PDPS Clean File Processing \(intermediate\)](#)

19 | [PDPS Identity Correction \(intermediate\)](#)

REGISTER ONLINE!

OUR WEBINARS

MARCH

3 | [NMVTIS State Web Interface](#)

Reckless Drivers Could Lose Vehicles Under New NYC Law (New York)

New York City drivers who get five camera-issued red light tickets or 15 camera-issued speeding tickets in a 12-month period will have to take a traffic safety course or risk losing their vehicles under a bill signed by Mayor Bill de Blasio on Wednesday. "We are putting all drivers on notice that if you behave recklessly behind the wheel, there will be real consequences," said de Blasio, who joined other city officials and traffic safety advocates a bill-signing ceremony. [Read more at abc7ny.com.](#)

Malliotakis Tapped by State Assembly Minority to Lead Efforts to Restore Access to All DMV Records Including Those of Undocumented Immigrants (New York)

State Assembly Minority Leader Will Barclay has tapped Assemblywoman Nicole Malliotakis to lead the minority's efforts to gain access to the state's Department of Motor Vehicles database following the passage of the state's "Green Light Law." The law allows undocumented immigrants to obtain a driver's license in the state and prevents federal immigration authorities from accessing their DMV records. Federal immigration officials lost access to those records after the "Green Light Law" passed last year. [Read more at silive.com.](#)

Saturday Service Proves Speedy for REAL ID Applicants (Rhode Island)

The R.I. Division of Motor Vehicles launched a pilot REAL ID reservation program over the weekend with good results and positive feedback from customers. "I am very pleased with how things turned out on the opening day of the reservation-only REAL ID service," said Mark Furcolo, director of the R.I. Department of Revenue, which oversees the DMV. "Customers were happy with how they were served Saturday morning. Congratulations to Bud Craddock and his staff for a successful launch. I look forward to seeing more Rhode Islanders take advantage of these expanded service hours." [Read more at johnstonsunrise.net.](#)

REGION 2 NEWS

Questions Answered Surrounding Arkansas REAL ID Deadline on Oct. 1

We are eight months away from a new normal when it comes to identifying ourselves...Beginning October 1, in order to board a flight, in order to walk into a federal courthouse or a military base, you will have to have a federal issued ID, what we're calling the Real ID," said Scott Hardin with the Department of Finance and Administration. Signs at Clinton National and airports across the country are already encouraging passengers to make the switch. [Read more at thv11.com.](#)

Kentucky Denies Hundreds of Vanity License Plates Every Year

Every year, hundreds of requests for vanity license plates in Kentucky are denied for being racy, raunchy or just downright rude. You have to admit, some of them are kind of funny. "I liked AU Digger. AU is the element of gold. So, you have gold digger." But, some cases are complicated...Check out this list of rejected personalized plates in Kentucky. [Read more at wkyt.com.](#)

After Years Urging REAL ID, NC DMV Now Asks: Do You Really Need One? (North Carolina)

After the N.C. Division of Motor Vehicles began issuing REAL IDs in 2017, the agency urged people to get one soon and not wait until new federal identification requirements go into effect this year. Now, as that Oct. 1 milestone approaches,

[\(SWI\) – Understanding the Administrative Features](#)

5 | [NMVTIS Suspense Resolution for Online States \(Web Service Version\) – Part 1](#)

10 | [DMV Contact Center Professional Teleconferences](#)

12 | [NMVTIS Suspense Resolution for Online States \(Web Service Version\) – Part 2](#)

18 | [Understanding the Purpose of the New SPEXS WebUI Reporting Portal](#)

19 | [NMVTIS Suspense Resolution for Online States \(AMIE Version\) – Part 1](#)

24 | [NMVTIS State Web Interface \(SWI\) – How to Correct Title and Brand Data on the Central Site](#)

25 | [The Detection of Fraudulent Identification](#)

26 | [NMVTIS Suspense Resolution for Online States \(AMIE Version\) – Part 2](#)

31 | [NMVTIS State Web Interface \(SWI\) – Instant Title Verification Using the VIN Search Feature](#)

[REGISTER ONLINE!](#)

OPEN RFPs

FEBRUARY

[AAMVA RFP FY20-22034B: 2020 April MDPEA/Auditing 3rd Party/Joint mDL Working Group Meeting](#)

February 28, 2020

[AAMVA RFP FY20-22167: 2020 September CDLIS Working Group Meeting](#)

February 28, 2020

MARCH

[AAMVA RFP FY21-22298: 2021 May AAMVA Leadership Academy](#)

DMV's message has changed a bit. Instead of urging everyone to get a REAL ID, the state is asking people to consider if they really need one, or if they really need one this year. [Read more at blueridgenow.com](#).

Bill Passes Committee Requiring Inmates to Be Issued Valid State IDs Upon Release (Oklahoma)

House Public Safety Committee advanced a bill on Feb. 20 that would require the Department of Corrections and Department of Public Safety to coordinate to issue valid state ID's to inmates when they are released. House Bill 1310 by Rep. Marilyn Stark (R-Bethany) would create the 'Inmate ID Act of 2020' if passed into law. The act would require the Department of Corrections and Department of Public Safety to work together to provide real ID non-compliant ID cards to all offenders who do not have a state-issued ID before their release. [Read more at okcfox.com](#).

Texas Rolls out New Driver's License, ID Card Design

If you get a new driver's license, identification card or license to carry card this week in the state of Texas, you may notice a new design. The Texas Department of Public Safety says the new cards have added security features and better protects against forgeries. The new driver's licenses and identification cards have visible identifiers on the front, which include identifying those who have a health condition that could hamper their ability to communicate with others, per DPS. The new cards also identify veterans and disabled veterans as well as their branch of service, on the front of the cards. [Read more at ksat.com](#).

West Virginia DMV Launches New Web Page for REAL ID

Nearly 60% of West Virginians do not have a Real ID-compliant driver's license or photo ID card. "A little more than 40% of West Virginians have a Real ID," West Virginia Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Commissioner Everett Frazier said...In an effort to help, the DMV announced Tuesday the launch of a new, West Virginia-specific, Real ID web page. The site, [go.wv.gov/realid](#), features an interactive checklist, as well as "Frequently Asked Questions," a countdown to Oct. 1 and more. [Read more at herald-dispatch.com](#).

REGION 3 NEWS

Plan to End Suspended Drivers License Problem Moves Forward (Kansas)

"It would cost me \$1,500 to get my license back," said Vicki Muñoz. She's one of more than 213,000 Kansans with suspended licenses, the majority of them due to nonpayment of fines and court fees. Like many, she says she simply can't afford the cost of getting her license back...Tuesday, the Kansas House gave preliminary approval to a plan to make doing that a bit easier. HB 2547 is the second of three bills introduced in the wake of our investigation. It would get rid of the current application fee for a temporary restricted drivers license, which allows driving to school and work while paying off fines and court fees. [Read more at kake.com](#).

Manitobans Encouraged to Replace Defective License Plates

If your license plate begins with the letter "F" it may be defective. Bethany Dueck is the Manager of the AutoPac Team at Brio Insurance. She says plates in the "F" series have become notorious in recent years for their tendency to peel prematurely..."F" plates are not the only ones to fall victim to this manufacturing error and Dueck says specialized plates, like those of Bombers and Jets fans, have also become known for expiring before their time. [Read more at chvnradio.com](#).

House Approves Plan to Remove License Fee (Michigan)

March 5, 2019

On Wednesday, Feb. 19, the Michigan House of Representatives approved State Rep. Hank Vaupel's (R-Dist. 47) plan to eliminate the service fee for a Vietnam War Veteran specialty license plate. The measure is part of a bipartisan, multi-bill package removing the \$5 service fee for various veteran and military license plates. [Read more at tctimes.com.](#)

Minnesota DPS-DVS Issuing \$2.25 Technology Surcharge Refunds

About 150,000 Minnesotans are going to see a \$2.25 check in their mailbox from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Driver and Vehicle Services division (DPS-DVS) in the coming weeks. The refund is being sent to Minnesotans who were charged a registration technology surcharge twice when they transferred their title and renewed their vehicle registration at the same time. They should only have paid one surcharge. "It's important that we return the fee to anyone who paid more than they should have," Minnesota Department of Public Safety Driver and Vehicle Services director Emma Corrie said. [Read more at sleepyeyenews.com.](#)

Missouri Lawmaker Proposes Change in Process for Selecting DMV Operators

Contracts to operate Missouri's DMV offices were once awarded without a bidding process, leading to accusations of contracts being given as political favors. The state eventually put a bidding process in place. State Rep. Chris Dinkins (R-Annapolis) believes it's time to change that process. Dinkins presented HB 2121 to the House Transportation Committee on Thursday. The proposed legislation would require any person or entity operating a DMV to be a Missouri resident. Dinkins' bill would also give favor to bidders who live in the county of the DMV office they hope to operate. [Read more at fox2now.com.](#)

Ohio BMV Policy Refusing Driver's Licenses to Some Refugees and Children of Immigrants Unconstitutional, Federal Judge Rules

The State of Ohio's Bureau of Motor Vehicles must end practices denying driver's licenses to some state residents with refugee status or those whose parents are undocumented, a federal judge ruled in separate but related cases Feb. 20...In both cases, Ohio argued that it cannot supply those licenses because it must comply with the federal REAL ID Act, which sets federal standards for driver's licenses in the 24 states that opted into that program so that their state IDs can be used for air travel and other purposes. One of those standards is requiring applicants to prove they have "lawful status" in the United States. [Read more at citybeat.com.](#)

Millions of Updated Driver's License Photos to Fill Ohio's Facial-Recognition System

About 8.8 million licensed Ohio drivers and state ID holders will have their photos uploaded to a state database used by law enforcement officers and federal immigration officials. Attorney General Dave Yost and Gov. Mike DeWine plan to fill the state's facial-recognition system with both updated and new mug shots. A task force formed by Yost recommended the step Thursday while advising him on use of the facial-recognition system as an effective law enforcement tool while protecting Ohioans' privacy and civil liberties. [Read more at cantonrep.com.](#)

REGION 4 NEWS

DMV Will Continue Outreach Effort to Bring REAL ID Processing to Rural Alaska

The Department of Motor Vehicles plans to continue a pilot program to make Real ID accessible in rural Alaska despite technical challenges and questions over

funding that have loomed for months...Officials said last month that many Alaskans already had another form of federally compliant ID. Commercial airline RavnAir has now offered to "transport DMV workers to and from communities that request the services," the company said in a prepared statement...DMV Director Jenna Wamsganz said during a legislative hearing last week that communities must request that the department visit to issue Real IDs locally. [Read more at adn.com.](#)

California DMV Releases Autonomous Vehicle Disengagement Reports for 2019

The California Department of Motor Vehicles released a batch of 2019 reports from the companies piloting self-driving vehicles in the state. By law, all companies actively testing autonomous cars on public roads in California are required to disclose the number of miles driven and how often human drivers were forced to take control of their vehicles, otherwise known as a "disengagement." [Read more at venturebeat.com.](#)

High Demand Bogs Down Online System for TSA-Compliant Driver's License Requests (Hawaii)

If you haven't gotten your REAL ID-compliant driver's license yet (the one with the gold star) you might be able to skip the long lines at the DMV and get it online. The city says some 92,000 Oahu residents may be eligible for the online option...The caveat: The city says demand is so high, the online portal for duplicates is getting bogged down. If you can't get in right away, officials say, try again later. [Read more at hawaiinewsnow.com.](#)

'H8UALL': List of Rejected Idaho Vanity Plates in 2019

You've probably seen some clever personalized license plates on Idaho's roads. We reached out to the Idaho Transportation Department to find out how many personalized license plates were rejected last year and why. From Jan. 1, 2019 to Dec. 1, 2019, over 180 plates were rejected, down by eight from last year's total. ITD says most were rejected because they didn't follow one simple rule - be tasteful. License plates cannot contain foul language or innuendos, but that didn't stop 181 people from trying. [Read more at ktvb.com.](#)

Montana Specialty Plates at Risk Have Until July to Reach Threshold

All of the Montana specialty license plate designs that are in danger of being revoked under updated Montana law now have until July 2020 to reach the minimum number of 400 registered plate sets...The 85 currently affected non-profit organizations that have specialty plates in danger of being revoked received a letter from the Montana Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) outlining the new grace period. On July 1, MVD will take a new "snapshot" of registered plates. [Read more at krtv.com.](#)

Banned by Nevada: Vanity License Plates Too Steamy for Sin City

Despite legal gambling statewide and legal prostitution in some areas -- even the state of Nevada has a limit to what is allowed on the Silver State's license plates. We've sorted through more than 21,000 rejected license plate requests and gathered more than 150 of the most risqué, bizarre, funny, and even some that you may find offensive. [Read more at kutv.com.](#)

Provo Police Seeing Many Cars With Illegal Black License Plates (Utah)

Black license plates are one of the newest "cool" car accessories that people are buying in Utah County. But they're completely illegal. And Provo police are warning drivers not to waste their money on those so-called "vintage" license plates that you can get online...Sgt. Nisha King says customers can order them online and use their

actual license number. However, even with a real plate number, these tags are not valid...The biggest issue is the paint used to make these vintage tags. King says they're incredibly hard to see at night. [Read more at ksl.com.](#)

OTHER NEWS

Tesla Crash Hearing Reignites Debate About Partially Autonomous Cars

A government hearing on a fatal Tesla (TSLA) vehicle crash is reigniting debates about the safety of advanced driver-assistance systems (ADAS) that can take over from human drivers in some, but not all, situations. At a Tuesday hearing, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) harshly criticized both Tesla and the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA) over a March 2018 crash that killed an Apple engineer driving Tesla's Model X crossover. The Apple engineer, Walter Huang, had turned on Tesla's Autopilot ADAS system, and is believed to have been playing a mobile game at the time of the crash. [Read more at thestreet.com.](#)

Feds Halt Autonomous Shuttle Testing in Utah, 9 Other States After Ohio Incident

Federal safety regulators temporarily have taken away the keys for passenger operations with driverless shuttle experiments in Utah and nine other states after a passenger in Ohio was injured in an unexplained braking incident. The National Highway Safety Administration suspended allowing passengers in the autonomous shuttles from France-based EasyMile pending an examination of "safety issues related to both vehicle technology and operations." EasyMile said a passenger in Columbus, Ohio, slipped from her seat when a shuttle was operating at 7.1 mph and made "an emergency stop as it is programmed to do. [Read more at sltrib.com.](#)

Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse Detects Nearly 8,000 Violations Since Jan. 6

Nearly 8,000 substance abuse violations have been detected and identified by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse since it went live Jan. 6, the agency announced Feb. 21. The Clearinghouse, a database containing information on commercial driver license holders' drug and alcohol violations, first went live last month but displayed error messages and experienced sluggish loading times. Although minor glitches remain on the website, users say it's performing its primary objectives. The Clearinghouse so far has more than 650,000 registrants, the agency said. [Read more at tnews.com.](#)

This Bill May Allow You to Use TSA Precheck as REAL ID

More than 182 million Americans will not be able to get through airport security or enter federal buildings come Oct. 1, 2020. That's the date when Real ID compliance requirements kick in — identification that passes a nation-wide standard for verification. Right now, an estimated 95 million Americans hold Real ID-compliant driver's licenses, U.S. passports and passport cards, military IDs, and Global Entry cards, all of which qualify as Real ID-compliant identification. And if a newly proposed congressional bill is passed, TSA PreCheck members may still be able to pass domestic airport security come Oct. 1, even without Real ID. [Read more at msn.com.](#)

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!*****

CO Dept. of Revenue @CO_Revenue | [View the Tweet](#)

It was a packed house during the Pop Up Driver License Office in @TownofMeeker! The DMV is thankful for the opportunity and we look forward to serving more northwest Coloradans when we return March 19-20! For more about the DMV, please visit <https://colorado.gov/dmv>



CT DMV @CTDMV | [View the Tweet](#)

Thank you @NatWestMarkets for inviting Comm. Magubane to speak at your fireside chat series to honor #BlackHistoryMonth. A great event to share insight on management, and career and leadership advice. It was also pleasure to meet future leaders from @abetterchance in #Darien.



Georgia DDS (DMV) @GeorgiaDDS | [View the Tweet](#)

DDS had the honor to partner with Congressman Johnson in his efforts to

break the cycle of recidivism! From introducing people to DDS 2 GO to passing out CDL manuals, we had a blast nurturing the drive of these Georgians. #ExceedExpectations #EveryCustomer #EveryTime



Indiana BMV @INBMV | [View the Tweet](#)

You may need to provide extra documentation to get your #REALID if your name has changed through marriage, adoption, court order, or naturalization.

Learn more with the helpful guide we created to walk you through every step: <http://ow.ly/I0Qr30hYNU4> #Indiana #DriversLicense



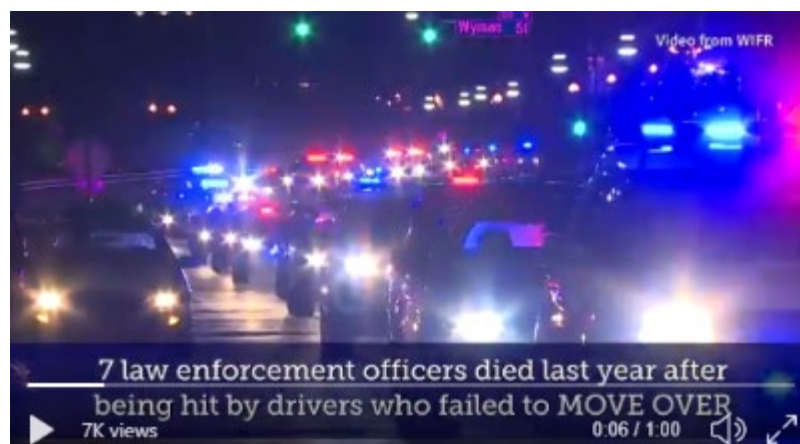
MD_MVA @MD_MVA | [View the Tweet](#)

Yesterday, Administrator Nizer joined @GovLarryHogan in Takoma Park at RS Automotive, home to the first fully converted gas-to-electric station in the United States. #MDOTScenes



NHTSA @NHTSAgov | [View the Tweet](#)

Protect those who protect you. If you see first responders pulled over with their lights flashing, slow down, and if you can do so safely, #MoveOver. Not only is it the right thing to do, it's the law.



OhioBureauMotorVehicle @Ohio_BMV | [View the Tweet](#)

Lt. Gov. Husted, Ohio BMV Registrar Charles Norman and Bedford DR David Laskey announced the biggest Get in Line, Online expansion to date in Dayton.



PA Department of Transportation @PennDOTNews | [View the Tweet](#)

Check it out! <https://youtube.com/watch?v=XhVus-r7VXM&t=18s>. Thanks to ASL Interpreter Ashley Shenk and our friends at the Pennsylvania Office for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing! #REALID #ASL



VirginiaDMV @VirginiaDMV | [View the Tweet](#)

The number of mature drivers on the nation's highways is rapidly growing. #Virginia has programs & resources to assist seniors & their families better manage safe driving. Learn more: <https://bit.ly/2VPmoOG>



Wisconsin DOT @WisconsinDOT | [View the Tweet](#)

This is a good listen. Get up to speed on everything you need to know about REAL ID! @WisCounties @LeagueWIMunis



The Regional News e-newsletter is developed and distributed by the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA). This message was intended for INSERT_EMAIL. If you would like to stop receiving this message, [click here to unsubscribe](#).

To manage all your AAMVA subscriptions, [click here](#) .

4401 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 700, Arlington, VA 22203