AAMVA's Regional News for March 8, 2019

New Date and Location Announced for 2019 Region 2 Conference!

The 2019 Region 2 Conference is changing dates and relocating to another hotel. The original hotel, JW Marriott, recently informed AAMVA that it will be undergoing highly disruptive construction during the original dates of the conference and this would lead to a less than optimal conference experience for attendees. The new dates of the Region 2 Conference are June 24-26, 2019 and the new hotel is the Marriott Marquis Houston. Please take note that the new dates have shifted one day earlier. The contact information for the new hotel is: Marriott Marquis Houston, 1777 Walker Street, Houston, TX 77010, 713.654.1777. We apologize for any inconvenience these changes cause. If you have any questions, please contact us at events@aamva.org.

Upgrading Your Wallet: How Soon Can I Get a Digital Driver's License?

You’re stopped by an officer on the highway who needs to see your driver’s license. A bartender requests proof that you are of legal drinking age. The boarding agent at the airport needs to make sure you are who you say you are. You’d typically pull out your wallet to grab your driver’s license. You reach for your smartphone instead. Read the article at usatoday.com.

Managing Data Privacy and External Access Working Group Looking for Technical Advisors

AAMVA's Managing Data Privacy & External Access Working Group is inviting qualified industry representatives to join the Working Group as Technical Advisors. There are a limited number of positions available. Organizations can submit more than one application, but only one representative from an organization can serve. Associate members will be given preference in the selection process for technical advisors.

The Managing Data Privacy and External Access Working Group shall develop and
identify best practices to reflect the most current methods that should be utilized by jurisdictions to protect driver and vehicle records data, provide access as authorized by law, and apply efficient and effective approaches to audit practices. The Working Group will be working in coordination with the Third Party Agents Working Group. If you would like to serve, please complete the application and send it to committees@aamva.org no later than March 15, 2019. If you have questions about the working group, please contact Julie Knittle at 571-405-1016.

**Nominations Currently Being Accepted for the CDL Train-the-Trainer Class**

The Commercial Driver License (CDL) Train-the-Trainer Class has been scheduled for Monday, June 17, 2019, through Friday, June 21, 2019, at Pinellas Technical College in St. Petersburg, Florida. The class is 40 hours long and the class size is limited to twelve people. It is designed to be a hands-on training class for lead examiners, or trainers, who conduct examiner and refresher training in their jurisdiction. The training class will utilize the curriculum as published in the Certified Commercial Examiner (CCE) Instructor Manual developed by the AAMVA International Driver Licensing Examiner Certification Executive Board. In preparation for this class, selected candidates will be required to complete assigned pre-course work and participate in prescheduled conference calls related to the assigned work. There is no tuition or registration fee for this training. All travel, room and board expenses will be paid by AAMVA. Please complete the Nominee Form for each individual being nominated and email them to Karen Morton no later than Friday, March 29, 2019, as class sizes are limited. Click here for more information regarding nominee requirements.

**AAMVA Hosts First-Ever CDL Test System Modernization Research & Development Pilot**

The Test Maintenance Subcommittee conducted the first Research and Development (R&D) Pilot at Florida State College Jacksonville - Cecil Center in Jacksonville, Florida during the week of February 18th. Thirty-six drivers with varying levels of driving experience participated in the pilot with each driver taking two or more test segments. Approximately 80 tests were conducted in a two day period by five teams of experienced CDL Skills Test Examiners. The R&D pilot team consisted of volunteers from several jurisdictions, the Test Maintenance Subcommittee, Highway Safety Services, FMCSA and AAMVA. The next pilot will be conducted in New Hampshire during the week of April 29th. Thanks to all of the volunteers for making this pilot a success!

**AAMVA's Abandoned Vehicle & Mechanic Lien Fraud Prevention Working Group Meets in Texas**

The Abandoned Vehicle & Mechanic Lien Fraud Prevention Working Group held their first in-person meeting February 26 –28 in San Antonio, Texas. Members discussed the issues and challenges surrounding abandoned vehicle title issuance, as well as the impact of fraud. After developing main themes, members began researching and analyzing opportunities for enhancement and fraud prevention. The working group will continue their work in-between planning for their next in-person meeting scheduled for May 1 and May 2. The best practice document developed by these members is targeted for release in early 2020.
AAMVA Attends Biometrics for Government & Law Enforcement Conference

For the second year in a row, AAMVA supported the Biometrics for Government & Law Enforcement Conference held last week in Washington, D.C. Geoff Slagle, AAMVA Director of Identity Management; Mindy Stephens, AAMVA Manager of Identity Management; and Kevin O'Leary, Idemia and technical advisor to the AAMVA Facial Recognition Working Group, represented AAMVA at the conference. Presentations were given updating attendees on progress with the mDL work and the ongoing use of biometric technology within the community to assist in better identity proofing, combating ID-related crime, and ultimately having a positive impact on highway safety. AAMVA’s biometric and mDL work was referenced by several other presenters representing the defense and intelligence communities.

Preparing for Automated Vehicles, Technical Assistance Now Available

Automated Vehicle Technical Assistance is available! AAMVA and NHTSA recognized the need to provide educational-based technical assistance to jurisdictions as they expand their understanding of vehicle technology and develop a strategy to address AV testing and deployment. Technical assistance will be facilitated by AAMVA and conducted by jurisdictional subject matter experts and AAMVA staff. The costs to provide the technical assistance will be funded by NHTSA. Click here for a complete description of the available assistance and an application.

7Investigates: Car Registration Evasion (Massachusetts)

When you move to Massachusetts, you have 30 days to register your car in the state. But many drivers don’t, in order to try to avoid paying excise tax. That leads to cars with out-of-state license plates parking on neighborhood streets for weeks, or even months. 7Investigates found one town is cracking down on the pricey problem. Read the article at whdh.com.

New Hampshire Is Safest State for Pedestrians

If you’re a pedestrian, New Hampshire is a pretty safe place to be. According to the Governors Highway Safety Association, just one person on foot died in a motor vehicle accident in the Granite State in the first half of 2018. Read the article at www.usnews.com.

Autonomous Car Testing Plan Aims to Boost Public Confidence (Pennsylvania)

Companies testing autonomous vehicles in Pittsburgh will have to immediately report crashes resulting in any injuries as part of new guidelines announced Monday intended to boost public confidence in the testing after a deadly accident in Arizona last year. Read the article at abcnews.com.

Your Step-by-Step Guide to Getting a Real ID (Pennsylvania)

Pennsylvania residents planning to travel domestically by plane or enter federal facilities will soon need an updated identification card called a Real ID. Starting this month, Real IDs will be available for Pennsylvanians online, at PennDOT Driver’s
New York Program Decreased Pedestrian Deaths. Georgia’s Deaths Went Up 32%
People are dying on Georgia roads at an alarmingly high rate. In 2018, according to the Governor’s Highway Safety Association’s annual report, over 130 people were killed by vehicles, an increase of 32 percent from 2017. Read the article at 11alive.com.

Fort Campbell Begins Seat Belt Safety Campaign (Kentucky)
During a recent traffic survey, the Installation Provost Marshal Office found that approximately 85.39 percent of drivers on Fort Campbell are wearing seat belts while operating a privately-owned vehicle. Read the article at dvidshub.net.

Real ID Phase-In Leads to Materials Shortage (Kentucky)
Real ID, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's new driver's license system, has hit some potholes on its way to full implementation, and the Warren Circuit Court Clerk's Office felt the jolt Monday. Read the article at bgdailynews.com.

Louisiana Highway Safety Commission Provides Tips for Motorcycle Safety
The Louisiana Highway Safety Commission is reminding motorists to be vigilant of motorcycles following a recent spike in fatalities involving motorcyclists. Read the article at katc.com.

North Carolina Leaders Sign Off on DMV Move Out of Raleigh (North Carolina)
A proposal was approved on Tuesday for Rocky Mount to be the future headquarters of the state Division of Motor Vehicles and officials in the Twin Counties reacted with enthusiasm. Read the article at reflector.com.

Where Did the DMV RV Go? (North Carolina)
The North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles Full Service recreational vehicle has been operating on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune for authorized personnel and their families since April of 2018. The DMV RV will be departing mid-March for scheduled maintenance but will return to the installation in time for April appointments. Read the article at dvidshub.net.

Erby Honored for Wearing Seatbelt by Tennessee Highway Patrol (Tennessee)
Last month, the Tennessee Highway Safety Office held a news conference at the Fall Branch Tennessee Highway Patrol office on the importance of seatbelt usage focused around the SAFE (SeatBelts Are For Everyone) Campaign. At the event Cocke County Sheriff's Department Chief Deputy Derrick Woods presented a award to William Levi Erby for a lifesaving choice he made in November while he was operating a vehicle on Old Parrottsville Highway the vehicle left roadway and overturned twice. Read the article at citizentribune.com.

Tennessee Tops New List for Cellphone Distracted Driving Deaths
Tennessee tops the list for cellphone distracted driving deaths nationwide. You see distracted drivers almost every time you’re on the road. “Texting a lot of times,”
AAMVA's Regional News for March 8, 2019

Ashland City resident Susan Farmer said, “It's awful, it's scary.” Many times these distractions can be extremely dangerous. Read the article at wsmv.com.

Texas DOT Kicks Off 'Plan While You Can' Campaign for Spring Break (Texas)
The Texas Department of Transportation is trying to make the roads as safe as possible for students who will soon be out on Spring Break. TxDOT kicked off a new campaign called "Plan While You Can." It's all about finding sober rides to and from the beaches. Read the article at kiiitv.com.

El Paso Uses Traffic Camera Video for Traffic Safety Campaign (Texas)
The El Paso Municipal Court won a Traffic Safety Awareness Award by incorporating traffic camera footage in Red Light Videos and promoting them on social media. Read the article at efficiencgov.com.

REGION 3 NEWS

WSU Researches Effects of Driving While High on Pot (Michigan)
A Wayne State research team is researching marijuana’s effects on driving performance. Randall Commissaris of WSU's Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences is part of the research team conducting experiments to determine the legal limit for driving under the influence of marijuana. The testing is taking place in the Driving Simulator Lab of the Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. Read the article at thesouthend.wayne.edu.

Round Two Planned on Roadside Saliva Drug Testing Study in Michigan
One pilot study is leading to another as the state of Michigan continues to vet the prospect of a five-minute roadside test police officers can use when drugged driving is suspected. Read the article at southbendtribune.com.

Missouri on Track to Offer REAL ID-Compliant Driver Licenses
The Missouri Department of Revenue will begin offering REAL ID-compliant driver licenses on March 25th. Read the article at fourstateshomepage.com.

Transportation Officials Use Highway Sign Humor for Safety (Ohio)
The Ohio Department of Transportation is working to encourage drivers to stay safe and to smile. Drivers may have seen some of the recent humorous digital roadway signs with messages such as "Camp in Ohio state parks, not the left lane," and "Visiting in-laws? Slow down, get there late." Read the article at newsobserver.com.

Tony Evers Orders Plan to Help Voters Obtain IDs from DMV Offices (Wisconsin)
Democratic Gov. Tony Evers has ordered the state Department of Transportation to draft a plan expanding hours at Department of Motor Vehicle offices so people can more easily get driver’s licenses and voter identification cards. Read the article at chippewa.com.

Wisconsin Governor Plans to Give Illegal Aliens Licenses, State IDs
The Wisconsin governor wants to give illegal aliens in the state driver licenses and
state IDs. Democrat Governor Tony Evers made the proposal during his Biennial Budget Address to state lawmakers. If made law, Wisconsin would join the 12 states that now offer illegal aliens driver licenses, CBS Minnesota reported. Read the article at ntd.com.

**REGION 4 NEWS**

**Motorcycle Organizations Coming Together for "Riding for the Long Haul" Event (Arizona)**
According to the Arizona Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Foundation, there are more than 3,000 motorcycle crashes in Arizona each year. To combat the numbers, the foundation holds a safety event to help stay safe on the roads. Read the article at fox10phoenix.com.

**ICBC Needs 7,000 New Drivers to Step Up for Study (British Columbia)**
ICBC is inviting eligible drivers to participate in a telematics pilot project starting this summer. Eligibility is based on driving experience and will be open to all drivers entering the novice stage of the Graduated Licensing Program and for drivers who have held a full drivers license for less than five years. Read the article at mycoastnow.com.

**Lawmakers Advance Bill To Expand Colorado's Immigrant Driver's License Program**
Colorado's dairy and livestock industries backed bipartisan legislation Thursday to expand a state program in which residents who are in the country illegally can obtain drivers licenses and identification cards. Read the article at cpr.org.

**New Study Finds Utah DUI Law ‘Not Only Ethically Defensible But Desirable’**
Though critics argue Utah's toughest-in-the-nation DUI law restricts personal freedom and criminalizes social drinking, a new study concludes that it is not only ethically defensible but desirable. Read the article at ksl.com.

**Pedestrian Deaths are Rising, but Not In Seattle. Here's Why (Washington)**
Across the U.S., pedestrian fatalities are increasing, according to a recent report. That's often due to distracted drivers and pedestrians looking at their phones. Some are high or drunk, and increasingly, they're driving heavy, taller SUVs that strike victims at chest height, where they can do more harm. Read the article at kuow.org.

**OTHER NEWS**

**Feel Like You're Driving More Than Usual? You Might Be.**
According to a study released Thursday by AAA the Auto Club Group's Foundation for Traffic Safety, Americans spent an extra 20 minutes in their car each week between 2016 and 2017. Read the article at tampabay.com.

**Some Self-Driving Car Systems Have Trouble Detecting Darker Skin, Study Says**
Last year, Microsoft, IBM, and Amazon were called out for using facial recognition technology that was biased against people with dark skin. Well, it looks like self-driving cars could have the same problem. Read the article at mashable.com.
How Data Analytics Could Help the Government Reduce Traffic Deaths
A D.C.-based startup with roots in the insurance market is using machine learning to predict the probability of car crashes on just about any stretch of road. Read the article at nextgov.com.

Volvo Hopes Lowering the Top Speed on Its Cars Will Save Lives
If people can’t follow the speed limit, Volvo will at least give them a little less horsepower the next time they step on the gas. The Swedish automaker, which is a subsidiary of Chinese automotive company Geely, announced on Monday that it will lower the speed limit in all new cars it produces, beginning next year, and will offer a top speed of 112 mph on future vehicles. Read the article at fortune.com.

IIHS to Add Pedestrian Protection to Top Safety Pick Criteria
The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety will add pedestrian autobraking to its Top Safety Pick and Top Safety Pick+ ratings next year. The technology is another ADAS element to potentially restore and recalibrate, though it’s likely that at least some of the sensory equipment will be part of systems or suites already on vehicles. Read the article at repairerdrivennews.com.

Autonomous Vehicles Could be an Environmental Boon or Disaster, Depending on Public Policy
Widespread use of autonomous vehicles (AVs) could either massively increase or drastically cut greenhouse gas emissions depending, in large part, on public policy, according to new research from Princeton University. Read the article at princeton.edu.

Study Shows Automated Cars Make Drivers Complacent
New research from Rice University and Texas Tech University has found that when automated vehicles miss hazards, their drivers are also likely to miss them. In addition, the longer the driver uses the automated driving system, the more likely they are to fail to react to hazards. Read the article at newatlas.com.

Study: Who Will Control the Data for Autonomous Vehicles?
Self-driving cars, like many inventions of the data-driven age, collect huge volumes of data, relating to the performance of the car and geospatial information. Who will, and who should, own this data? A new study assesses the importance. Read more at digitaljournal.com.

Major Road Safety Concerns as Millions of Auto Recalls Added, Pedestrian Deaths on the Rise
If you tend to walk anywhere, be on high alert. Pedestrian deaths are at the highest level in decades. In an alarming new report by the Governors Highway Safety Association, the focus is on the sharp increase of pedestrian fatalities in recent years. The report estimates there were more than 6,000 deaths in 2018, up 4% from 2017 -- which would be the largest number of pedestrian deaths since 1990. Read the article at finance.yahoo.com.

Bill To Stop Keyless Ignitions From Killing Drivers Likely To Pass Or Force NHTSA To Act
The push-button starter that allows drivers to keep their key-fobs in their pockets is a popular feature with consumers. The flaw in the technology though is that engines can be so quiet these days, especially with hybrid vehicles, that drivers park their
vehicles in a garage attached to the house, and forget to push the starter button off. Read the article at forbes.com.

**GHSA Report Projects Four Percent Jump In Pedestrian Fatalities**
A new report issued by the Governors Highway Safety Association on Feb. 28 projects that pedestrian fatalities will number 6,227 in 2018; a 4 percent jump from the 5,977 pedestrian deaths recorded in 2017 and the highest number in nearly three decades. Read the article at aashtojournal.org.

**I Drove an Autonomous Delivery Truck from 1,200 Miles Away**
With all the talk of 5G phones at MWC this week, it's easy to forget about the practical uses for the public, enterprise and more. Applications across a range of industries are on display in Barcelona, and one of the most interesting is from Einride. Read the article at engadget.com.

**TWITTER NEWS**

@AAMVACConnection 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 @AAMVACConnection.

Check out recent @AAMVACConnection Twitter action.

***Thank you for the @AAMVACConnection mentions!***

DADSSResearch @DADSSTech | View the Tweet

Did you know that the Automotive Coalition for Traffic Safety (ACTS) and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (@NHTSAgov) are working together in collaborative research to develop the DADSS technology?
#DrunkDrivingPrevention

WVDOT@WVDOT | View the Tweet
DID YOU KNOW? If you need to renew your driver's license or vehicle registration, you can do it online or at a DMVNow kiosk! No need to wait in line at the DMV unless you made any changes to your address or name, or bought a new car. #SkipTheTrip #WVDMV #WVDOT

MN Public Safety @MnDPS_DPS | View the Tweet

DPS Commissioner John Harrington joined @govtimwalz as he signed a bill providing critical funding for our Driver and Vehicle Services division. The bill provides $13.3 million to continue work on MNLARS, increase staffing at DVS & evaluate progress on system development.

GHSA @GHSAHQ | View the Tweet

Car crashes, psychosis, suicide: Is the drive to legalize marijuana ignoring m...
As more states move to legalize recreational marijuana, it's important to address the potential impact on traffic safety. Thanks @JayneODonnell for considering the concerns:

4401 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 700, Arlington, VA 22203