New AAMVA Working Group

AAMVA has established a working group to develop guidance for using and auditing motor vehicle agents, third parties and dealers acting as motor vehicle agents. The working group will look at the use of current fraud resources, including tools and analytics in systems to flag inconsistencies, and include lessons learned. In addition, the best practice will address Memorandums of Understandings or Agreements (MOU or MOA) with those third parties.

AAMVA Leadership Academy Wraps Up

The 2019 Class of AAMVA's Leadership Academy officially completed their training last week, wrapping up several days of professional development, leadership training, and networking. As part of the training course, the 19 up-and-coming jurisdiction leaders heard from industry professionals, met with experienced administrators, and toured the Virginia DMV, among many other activities. To get a glimpse into what the week was like for the Leadership Academy participants, visit AAMVA's Flickr page, or watch this video wrap-up to hear from the participants themselves.

CDL Skills Test Modernization Pilot Testing Takes Place in New Hampshire

Last week, AAMVA's Test Maintenance Subcommittee, IDEC Board members and jurisdiction volunteers gathered at the New Hampshire Department of Public Safety (NH DPS) to implement phase two of the CDL Skills Test System Modernization initiative. Hosted by the New Hampshire Division of Motor Vehicles (NH DMV), jurisdiction CDL experts conducted over 60 pre-trip and on-course skills tests with a wide range of commercial drivers and applicants to assess the safety, effectiveness and efficiency of the proposed new test models. AAMVA would like to thank NH DMV Director Elizabeth Bielecki, NH Driver License Bureau Administrator Jeff Oberdank and the NH DPS team who hosted this successful week of assessment.
AAMVA’s Test Maintenance Subcommittee, International Driver Examiner Certification Board and representatives of NH DPS, all of whom carried out pilot testing for 3 days in Concord, NH. Pictured right, NH DPS and DMV leaders recognize Maria Buckman (center) for her tremendous assistance to CDL Skills Test Pilot testing team.

**AAMVA Hosts State-to-State Governance Committee Meeting**

The State-to-State (S2S) Governance Committee met on April 26th in Arlington, VA to review the progress made by the S2S program. With 24 states already on board, and another 12 scheduled to implement by the end of 2020, the program is on its way to full nationwide coverage by 2023. Meeting attendees included representatives from the Compact Executive Board and AAMVA Board of Directors. Topics such as the financial model, driver’s license compact, operational status and progress on system enhancements were discussed. Click here for more information on the State-to-State service.

**Federal Real ID Implementation Will Prompt Recall of Thousands of Maryland Driver’s Licenses and ID Cards Beginning in June**

A group of Marylanders are at risk of having their driver’s licenses or identification cards recalled in June if they don’t satisfy document requirements that are part of the federally-mandated REAL ID process. The overall deadline for obtaining a REAL ID is October 1, 2020, but more than 66,300 Marylanders with a new REAL ID star license or identification card have not yet filed the required documents. These people have been contacted by the Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration (MDOT MVA) multiple times since December and need to bring those documents to the MDOT MVA by June to complete the process. Without those documents, MDOT MVA will start flagging the affected driver’s licenses and identification cards in June as ‘recalled.’ Read the article at mva.maryland.gov.

**New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission Announces Real ID Readiness Initiatives**

New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission Chief Administrator Sue Fulton today announced a sweeping set of ambitious initiatives the Commission is rolling out in preparation for the issuance of REAL ID. 'We’ve seen in other states that issuing REAL IDs causes dramatically longer lines, in some cases completely overwhelming Motor Vehicle agencies,' Fulton said. 'We want to make sure that we are ready for our customer volume to double, triple, or even quadruple, when REAL ID starts.' Chief Fulton laid out a number of major changes now under way or planned for the next few months, from enhancing online services to improving agency operations and computer systems and hiring roughly 200 new employees. Read the article at state.nj.us.

**School Districts Could Soon Mount Cameras on Buses to Catch Reckless Drivers (New York)**

An agreement in the New York State Senate clears the way to allow school districts to install cameras on school buses. Cameras mounted on school buses would be designed to keep people from driving past the buses when students are getting on and off. The proposal comes after a study on Long Island showed just how common...
it was for drivers chose to ignore signals. Read the article at wcbs880.radio.com.

**After High-Profile Traffic Deaths, Here Are the DC Council’s Ideas for Street Safety (Washington, DC)**

A major piece of legislation that aims to reduce traffic fatalities and reach the District’s Vision Zero goals reads like a laundry list—nearly 25 ideas from ban right turns on red everywhere to lower speed limits and putting more mandates for safe streets on developers. The Vision Zero omnibus bill from Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen was introduced alongside other traffic safety legislation. One bill from At-large Councilmember David Grosso would mandate corner bulb-outs on any District Department of Transportation project either new or reconstructed. Those extended curbs help reduce the amount of distance a pedestrian is exposed to traffic and slows traffic. Another from Ward 4 Councilmember Brandon Todd would expand the DMV driving test to include rules on how to drive near bikes. Read the article at dcist.com.

**Georgia Department of Revenue Implementing New Georgia DRIVES Motor Vehicles System**

The Georgia Department of Revenue (DOR) is installing a new state-of-the-art system, Georgia Driver Record and Integrated Vehicle Enterprise System (DRIVES), to upgrade and modernize the vehicle registration and titling system. The new Georgia DRIVES system will enable more self-service options, improve customer service, and enhance data integrity. Beginning Tuesday, May 21, some online vehicle services and location hours may be reduced in preparation for the system upgrade. Read the article here. Watch the video here.

**Bill to Prohibit Driver’s License Suspension for Certain Defendants Passes House (Louisiana)**

A new bill filed in the Louisiana House of Representatives that would prohibit the suspension of a driver’s license of a defendant who is financially unable to pay a criminal fine has passed the House and will now move to the Senate. The bill filed by Rep. John Bagneris (D-Dist. 100) received 63 yeas and 41 nays on the House floor on Tuesday. House Bill 397 states that if the person is financially unable to pay the fine, ‘the judge of the court shall not order that the person’s driver’s license be surrendered for failure to pay such fine.’ The present law states that a judge may order the license to be surrendered for a period of time not to exceed 180 days. If after 180 days the defendant has not paid the fine, the sheriff or official of the court designated to collect fines shall ‘forward the license to the Department of Public Safety and Corrections.’ A 2017 amending of the law authorizes the surrender of the license only when the defendant is ‘able but has willfully refused to pay the fine.’ Those changes become effective on Aug. 1, 2019. Read the article at kalb.com.

**Troopers Promoting Motorcycle Safety by Offering Courses Across the State (Louisiana)**

The tradition of promoting motorcycle safety across Louisiana continues as Governor John Bel Edwards has declared the month of May as ‘Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month.’ In the ongoing effort to increase motorcycle rider safety across the state, the Department of Public Safety’s ‘Motorcycle Safety, Awareness, and Operator Training Program’ currently offers Basic, Intermediate, Advanced, and Instructor training courses and promotes motorcycle awareness projects. These research based courses address the critical physical and mental skills needed in the safe and skillful operation of a motorcycle. Read the article at myarklamiss.com.

**Oklahoma Governor Signs Autonomous Vehicle**
Legislation
Cities and counties are banned from regulating autonomous vehicles, according to legislation signed Tuesday by Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt. Senate Bill 365 mandates that state law will supersede any city and county ordinance that 'prohibits, restricts or regulates the testing or operation of motor vehicles equipped with driving automation systems.' It also creates definitions for autonomous vehicles, which gives lawmakers a basis for regulation in the future. Read the article at govtech.com.

Tennessee Passes Bill Allowing Drivers With Unpaid Court Debt to Keep Licenses
Tennessee lawmakers have signed off on legislation that would prevent the state from revoking or suspending driver’s licenses over unpaid court costs. The Senate on Tuesday advanced a proposal allowing people to still have a restricted driver’s license while they pay off their court fines using a payment plan rather than face a possible suspension. The bill now goes to Gov. Bill Lee’s desk. Read the article at insurancejournal.com.

Police and DMV Issue More Than 150 Warnings to Truck Drivers on I-81 (Virginia)
A partnership between Virginia State Police and the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) netted nearly 200 warnings and tickets for commercial drivers along Interstate 81 in a single day...Police say the initiative was focused on commercial vehicle traffic, which, according to VDOT, accounts for 20 to 30 percent of the traffic volume on I-81 in the Shenandoah Valley. Of the nearly 2,000 crashes on Virginia's stretch of I-81 a year, over 25% involve heavy trucks. Read the article at wdbj7.com.

Illinois Troopers Patrol Undercover Dressed as Construction Workers
Illinois troopers plan to start dressing up like construction workers as they patrol work zones. 'Somebody is going to get hurt,' disguised Illinois State Trooper Ron Salier told WQAD. 'That's why we're out here. We are trying to make a difference and educate people.' The undercover patrols began Monday to raise awareness for Work-Zone Safety Week. Police said they planned to conduct more patrols in the future, but didn't have plans in place. Read the article at wgntv.com.

Digital Driver's Licenses Get the Green Light (Indiana)
You'll soon be able to carry a copy of your driver's license on your cell phone. Gov. Holcomb has signed a bill allowing the Indiana BMV to offer a secure, digital driver's license app to go with your plastic card...The Indiana BMV will pay for the program, but the cost is still undetermined. The BMV hopes to do a pilot program in 2020 with help from states that already have the licenses, like Louisiana. Read the article at wibc.com.

April Distracted Driving Enforcement Campaign Results in 322 Citations (North Dakota)
In an effort to save lives, law enforcement agencies across the state worked overtime in April for the nationwide distracted driving enforcement campaign, U Drive. U Text. U Pay. A total of 322 citations were attributed to the added patrols. Of the total citations, 174 were issued for distracted driving, 53 for other traffic citations (i.e. disobeying traffic signals, equipment violations), 39 citations for speeding, 16 citations for suspended/revoked license, seven citations for being an uninsured motorist, seven drug-related arrests and six citations for not wearing a seat belt. Read the article at dot.nd.gov.
Kids Get Chance to Design Anti-Bullying License Plate (Ohio)
Ohio children have the chance to design an anti-bullying license plate. A contest to create the logo and slogan for the 'Stop Bullying' plates is a joint effort of the Ohio Attorney General's Office and the Ohio Education Association. The contest is open exclusively to children enrolled in kindergarten through fifth grade in the current school year. Entries must be postmarked by May 31. Read the article at wkyc.com.

REGION 4 NEWS

Veterans Eligible for Commercial Drivers License Under ADOT Waiver (Arizona)
Veterans of the U.S. military who operated large vehicles as part of their service may qualify for an Arizona Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Division military skills test waiver when applying for a commercial driver license. 'The waiver is something that deserves more attention because it gives veterans who've honorably served this country more opportunities to use those skills once they return to civilian life,' MVD Field Operations Administrator Mike Cryderman said in a prepared statement. Read the article at queencreekindependent.com.

'Const. Scarecrow:' Lloydminster Orders Cardboard Traffic Cops to Scare Speeders (British Columbia)
They can't pull you over, but they may give speeding drivers a fright. The City of Lloydminster, which straddles the border of Alberta and Saskatchewan, has ordered $500 cardboard traffic cop decoys to remind drivers to slow down. The cardboard cutouts, which depict an officer holding a radar gun, were tested in a Coquitlam, B.C., pilot project to great success. Coquitlam said the decoys resulted in a 50 per cent reduction in speeding drivers, but acknowledged that number may drop as drivers get used to the initiative. Read the article at cbc.ca.

IHA8VGS? Here's Why Nevada DMV Rejected 1,013 Vanity Plates Last Year
On the first day of 2018, someone (we presume in Northern Nevada) tried to immortalize their disdain for the Silver State’s largest city, Las Vegas, with a custom vanity plate. Destined for a 1998 Chevrolet, the requester wanted the stamped aluminum plate that would officially identify their vehicle to read 'IHA8VGS.' In the custom plate application — a required form for all custom vanity plates in the state — the requester made no attempt to hide the meaning of their desired plate. Read the article at rgj.com.

Prince Albert Implementing 3D Illusion to Slow Drivers Down (Saskatchewan)
Prince Albert city council has voted to hire someone to paint a 3D illusion on the crosswalk between Carlton Comprehensive High School and the Carlton Plaza strip mall. 'When you pull up to it and you look at it, you think you’re going to hit it. The drivers will notice it better and slow down,’ Mayor Greg Dionne said. The crosswalk, located on Sixth Avenue East, is often busy with students before and after school and on the lunch hour. Read the article at saskatoon.ctvnews.ca.

Lane Filtering Law, Allowing Motorcycles to Bypass Traffic, Takes Effect Next Week (Utah)
In anticipation of a new law that aims to protect motorcyclists from being rear-ended, law enforcement discussed the ins and outs of ‘lane filtering’ and what it looks like when done properly. 'It actually improves traffic flow,' said motorcycle rider instructor Dale Bell. 'It removes the motorcycles from the traffic mix and gets them out of the way.' It’s called lane filtering. A practice, new to the state of Utah, that will allow...
motorcyclists to ‘filter’ to the front of traffic. Read the article at fox13now.com.

OTHER NEWS

FMCSA’s Ray Martinez: Industry Collaboration, Data Play Key Roles in Agency’s Work
The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration is focused on improving infrastructure and creating common-sense regulations, and open communication with the trucking industry enhances the government’s efforts. Ray Martinez, FMCSA administrator, made the remarks while addressing trucking industry executives at American Trucking Associations’ midyear management meeting. ‘My work at FMCSA depends on clear and honest communication with you as close to real time as possible,’ Martinez said. He added that over the past year, the relationship between FMCSA and the industry has grown, resulting in a more positive and collaborative relationship. Read the article at ttnews.com.

Expert Panel to Issue Safety Recommendations for Autonomous Vehicles
The Governors Highway Safety Association, through the support of State Farm®, will convene a panel of experts May 8 in Arlington, Va., to consider the issues surrounding the use of autonomous vehicles and will provide recommendations for state highway safety agencies, law enforcement, and other safety advocates. GHSA announced that the panel represents a wide spectrum of national experts from the federal government, the automotive and technology industries, criminal justice organizations, national safety groups, and GHSA’s State Highway Safety Office members. Read the article at ohsonline.com.

CVSA’s Operation Safe Driver Week to Focus on Speeding
Law enforcement personnel will be on the prowl for bad behavior by commercial vehicle and passenger drivers on the nation’s roadways, including a special focus on speeding, during this year’s Operation Safe Driver Week event scheduled for July 14-20. Actions of speeding drivers have contributed to 94% of all traffic crashes, according to 2015 statistics compiled by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. ‘For more than two decades, speeding has been involved in nearly one-third of all motor vehicle fatalities,’ said Jay Thompson, Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance president and chief of Arkansas Highway Police. Read the article at ttnews.com.

‘Stop. Trains Can’t.’ Campaign Airing
The U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) recently relaunched a $5.6 million public safety awareness campaign – Stop. Trains Can’t. -- urging Americans to take greater care at highway-rail grade crossings. In 2018 alone, 270 people were killed at railroad crossings. Of those, 99 people died after the driver went around lowered crossing gate arms – a 10-year high. Read the article at timesvirginian.com.

Driving Drowsy Is as Dangerous as Driving Drunk, Study Finds
Driving while tired is as dangerous as driving while drunk, according to a new study from Australia. The study, conducted for the Australian parliament, said driving after being awake more than 17 hours was akin to driving with a blood-alcohol content of .05 percent in regards to reaction times, alertness, and judgment. While the United States, Mexico, and more consider a BAC of .08 percent legally impaired, others such as Australia, Canada, and most of Europe use a stricter .05 percent standard. A handful of countries, including Japan (.03 percent) and China (.02 percent), are even more strict. Read the article at thedrive.com.
@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!***

MD_MVA @MD_MVA | View the Tweet
WE LOVE OUR EMPLOYEES! Today is Employee Appreciation Day and we'd like to thank everyone in our MDOT MVA family for being awesome and helping us provide premier customer service. View the full album here: http://bit.ly/2DY0Fg4 #MDOTcares

New Jersey MVC @NJ_MVC | View the Tweet
NJ MVC Chief @SueFulton unveiled a sweeping set of initiatives that will minimize wait times, modernize operations, and improve the customer experience as the Commission readies for REAL ID rollout. Learn more at http://www.state.nj.us/mvc/press/archives/2019/050719a.htm …
Georgia DDS (DMV) @GeorgiaDDS | View the Tweet
Happy Public Employee Recognition Week from #TeamDDS #GADDSCares

Kevin Shwedo @shwedo | View the Tweet
SCDMV Employee Appreciation Day 2019 - the greatest Public Servants in the State! Thanks to #RCSD and #LivePD for making this day special!!
VirginiaDMV @VirginiaDMV | View the Tweet
We traveled throughout Virginia to ask people a series of questions about traffic fatalities. Though their answers differed in some ways, a single theme emerged: the only acceptable number of fatalities on our roads is zero. #TZDVA #VisionZero

Indiana BMV @INBMV | View the Tweet
Today the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles signed its first driver's license reciprocity agreement with Taiwan. Thank you to Director General Huang, and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office for joining us this afternoon to sign the agreement and celebrate this relationship.
Iowa DOT @iowadot | View the Tweet
Once people realize they should care about the way they drive 2-ton chunks of metal hurtling down the road… It’s all over for Grim. Learn more at https://bit.ly/2IsJveB #ZeroFatalitiesIowa