AAMVA Needs Your Input for Our New Website!
As you may know, we have been working on redesigning our website, www.aamva.org. We’re testing some navigation concepts for the new site and would like your feedback. It’ll only take 10 minutes or less, and you don’t have to be familiar with AAMVA’s current website to participate. Just click here to do the exercise. We appreciate your input!

FEATURED NEWS

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

COVID-19 | NATIONAL NEWS COVERAGE

- Americans’ Risk of Dying in Motor Vehicle Crash Rose for Third Consecutive Month Amid Coronavirus Lockdowns: Data

COVID-19 | REGION 1 NEWS COVERAGE

- Reopening New Jersey: MVC Location Closed After Worker Tests Positive for Coronavirus (New Jersey)
- DC’s Dept. of Motor Vehicles Gives Drivers Reprieve on Expired Documents (Washington, DC)
- Area Motor Vehicle Offices Facing COVID-Related Backlogs (Washington, DC)

COVID-19 | REGION 2 NEWS COVERAGE

- Online Driver License Renewal Extended (Alabama)
- Need a Driver’s License? Appointments Are a Month Away, and It’s Now an Election Issue (Florida)
- Driver License Road Tests Waived for NC Adult Applicants (North Carolina)
- 44 DMV Customer Service Centers to Reopen Across the Commonwealth (Virginia)

COVID-19 | REGION 3 NEWS COVERAGE
The 2020 Annual International Conference (AIC), as well as the Region 1, Region 2, Region 3, and Region 4 conferences are cancelled. Visit our website for the full cancelation list.

**COVID-19 | REGION 4 NEWS COVERAGE**

- [Some Seniors Afraid to Renew Driver's Licenses During Pandemic (Illinois)]
- [MPI Sees ‘Significant Increase’ in Speed-Related Serious Driving Offences on Manitoba Roads]

Visit [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) for more information on COVID-19, guidance, press releases, press kits, and more.

**REGION 1 NEWS**

### Pennsylvania Introduces Gender-Neutral Driver License Option

Pennsylvania as of Thursday is offering driver licenses and identification cards with a gender-neutral designation for people who do not identify as either male or female. The state Department of Transportation said that people can now choose that option in addition to the “male” or “female” designation. It will let motorists and those needing a state-issued identification card to use “X” as a third option to indicate gender. [Read more at whyv.org](https://www.whyv.org).

### NY Driver's License Suspension Reform Bill Sent to Governor's Desk (New York)

The New York Senate joined the Assembly in passing the Driver's License Suspension Reform Act on Wednesday. According to the state, the vast majority of New York driver’s license suspensions are for traffic tickets that residents cannot afford to pay. The new law would end license suspensions due to traffic debt, while making affordable payment plans available. [Read more at 13wham.com](https://www.13wham.com).

### CAA Study Reveals a Majority of Ontario Drivers Favour Provincial Towing Oversight

A recent study conducted on behalf of CAA South Central Ontario (CAA SCO) indicates that 90 per cent of Ontario drivers agree with regulations such as tow truck licensing, certification and provincial oversight. The study, commissioned in April 2020, revealed that only 1 out of 5 Ontario drivers feel "very protected" under the current system...The study also showed that half of Ontario drivers believe that tow trucks in Ontario are licensed. This is not the case. [Read more at finance.yahoo.com](https://www.finance.yahoo.com).

### Driving School Owner Gets Probation in PBC Driver's License Scam (Florida)

A year’s probation is the punishment for the owner of a suburban West Palm Beach driving school, who authorities said conspired with three others to help at least 63 people fraudulently obtain driver’s licenses. In an investigation that started in 2017, the Florida Highway Patrol arrested at least 30 people they said got the tainted...
AAMVA's Regional News for July 24, 2020

12  |  CDLIS Improving Data Quality (basic)
13  |  CDLIS Error Detection and Resolution (intermediate)
18  |  CDLIS Rules for Driver Convictions (intermediate)
19  |  CD11 Report Out-of-State Conviction (intermediate)
20  |  CD12 Negate Out-of-State Conviction (intermediate)
25  |  CDLIS Rules for Driver Withdrawals (intermediate)
26  |  CD16 Report Out-of-State Withdrawal (intermediate)
27  |  CD17 Negate Out-of-State Withdrawal (intermediate)

AUGUST - PDPS

4  |  PDPS Broken Pointer Management (intermediate)
5  |  PDPS Clean File Processing (intermediate)
6  |  PDPS Identity Correction (intermediate)

REGISTER ONLINE!

OUR WEBINARS

JULY

29  |  Conference Session Series: People First: Assisting Customers with Special Needs

AUGUST

4  |  NMVTIS State Web Interface (SWI) – Understanding the Administrative Features
5  |  Conference Session Series: Impacts of Hemp and CBD Legalization
6  |  NMVTIS Suspense Resolution

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Governor Reeves Announces Department of Revenue Appointment to Ensure State’s Financial Stability (Mississippi)

Governor Tate Reeves announced Chris Graham as his appointment for Commissioner of the Mississippi Department of Revenue (DOR) to ensure Mississippi’s continued financial stability. Chris has a proven history of fighting for our state and handling complex administrative and accounting battles—having served in offices from the Mississippi Legislative Budget Office and Mississippi Ethics Commission to 17 years of legal experience as an attorney. Read more at yallpolitics.com.

Real IDs Being Issued in Tulsa Now, Oklahoma Department of Public Safety Says (Oklahoma)

The Department of Public Safety is issuing Real IDs in Tulsa, the agency announced Wednesday. The state’s rollout of Real IDs began June 29 in the Oklahoma City area and expanded into Edmond. This week, DPS began issuing Real IDs at the Tulsa Eastgate location...Appointments are not necessary but are encouraged, a DPS spokeswoman said. Eight tag agencies in Tulsa will also begin issuing this week, a news release states. Read more at tulsaworld.com.

AAA: Texas Has Second Highest Number of Vehicle Thefts in US

Everything is big in Texas -- including the number of stolen vehicles. According to AAA Texas, the Lone Star State has the second highest number of vehicle thefts in the nation. More than 65,000 cars and trucks are stolen and nearly 200,000 are burglarized each year in Texas, according to the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles. Most of those crimes occur in a parking garage/lot or at the victim's home. Read more at cbsaustin.com.

Northam Signs Law Allowing Undocumented Immigrants to Get Driver's Licenses in Virginia

Governor Ralph Northam held a virtual signing Monday to celebrate the legislation that gives the Department of Motor Vehicles permission to issue driver privilege cards to undocumented immigrants living in Virginia beginning January 1, 2021. In February, the Virginia Senate passed legislation introduced by Senators Scott Surovell and Jennifer Boysko that would allow immigrants to possess a driver's license "regardless of legal status." Read more at wset.com.

Illinois State Police Requests License Plate Scanners

Expressway shootings have surged in the Chicago area this year, already surpassing what is normally seen in an entire year and increasing pressure for the installation of better cameras as well as scanners that read license plates. The Illinois State Police have recorded 61 expressway shootings in Cook County this year. That compares with 52 for all of 2019, 43 in 2018, 51 in 2017 and 54 in 2016, a year when gun violence in Chicago hit levels not seen since the 1990s. Read more at govtech.com.

New Law to Make It Easier for Missourians to Renew and Use Driver's Licenses

A new law will make it easier to renew and use your Missouri Driver’s License. House Bill 1963 allows residents to store a digital copy of their license, in addition to licenses at the Palm Beach County Tax Collector’s office in Greenacres. Read more at palmbeachpost.com.
the physical identification card. The measure directs the Department of Revenue to ensure the virtual version is secure. The bill also offers the option of renewing a driver’s license online, a choice similar to renewing license plates for your car. Read more at fourstateshomepage.com.

DMV Offers Information on Obtaining an ID to Vote (Wisconsin)
The Wisconsin Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is providing information on how to obtain free identification that is valid for voting in the Wisconsin 2020 Partisan Primary on Tuesday, Aug. 11. According to the Wisconsin Elections Commission, forms of ID acceptable at the polls include: A Wisconsin DOT-issued driver license; A Wisconsin DOT-issued identification card; Military ID card issued by a U.S. uniformed service; A U.S. passport; An identification card issued by a federally recognized Indian tribe in Wisconsin. Read more at tomahawkleader.com.

Chinese Autonomous Driving Start-Up AutoX Wins Driverless Car Permit for Tests in California
Chinese autonomous driving start-up AutoX has won a permit from the California Department of Motor Vehicles to start testing driverless cars in designated areas in San Jose, California – the first Chinese company to win such approval. While AutoX has had state authority to test autonomous vehicles with safety drivers since 2017, the new permit allows the company to test one autonomous vehicle without a driver behind the wheel on specified streets around its San Jose headquarters, according to a release issued by the California DMV on Friday. Read more at scmp.com.

Caltrans Unveils Freight Mobility Plan (California)
California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) officials said its California Freight Mobility Plan 2020, unveiled on Monday, would enhance efforts to move goods throughout the state more efficiently, safely and sustainably. “The COVID-19 health crisis has increased our understanding of how important the freight industry is to our health and economic well-being,” Toks Omishakin, Caltrans director, said. “This plan will inform our decisions and help grow our economy through increased competition, efficiency and sustainability of our freight system.” Read more at transportationtodaynews.com.

CDOT’s ‘Human Cheese Grater’ Reminds Motorcyclists to Ride Safe, Wear Proper Gear (Colorado)
The “Human Cheese Grater,” a display installed in the parking lots of motorcycle dealers across the Front Range, is part of a summer motorcycle safety awareness campaign kicked off on Tuesday by the Colorado Department of Transportation and Colorado State Patrol. “Year after year, we see approximately 75 percent of fatal motorcycle crashes are caused by the motorcycle rider. This tells me if I make personal decisions to get the proper training, wear the proper protective gear, and most importantly make responsible decisions, I can do a lot to keep myself safe on a motorcycle!” said Major Tim Keeton with the Colorado State Patrol. Read more at kdvr.com.

Some Groups Bemoan Loss of Specialty License Plate Revenue (Montana)
Specialty license plates, which are sold as fundraising resources for nonprofit groups, reached the end of its extension last Wednesday to try to sell enough to continue the funding source. A bill passed last legislative session mandates that if groups do not sell 400 or more plates in three years, the plates will be revoked. Previously Motor Vehicle Division of the State Department of Justice had the option
State Organizations Hail Senate Committee Action on REAL ID Modernization Act
The National Governors Association, the National Conference of State Legislatures and the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators commend the Senate Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs Committee’s action on the REAL ID Modernization Act: “Our collective associations have long called for and offered constructive and cost-effective recommendations for implementing and enforcing REAL ID. The REAL ID Modernization Act represents tremendous collaborative efforts to improve and modernize the current REAL ID Act. Read more at nga.org.

FMCSA to Host Virtual Trucking Safety Summit Aug. 5
The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration has scheduled a virtual trucking safety summit to solicit information on improving the safe operation of property-carrying commercial motor vehicles on the nation’s roads. According to notice published in the July 21 Federal Register, the summit – slated for 9 a.m. Eastern on Aug. 5 – is open to the public and will provide an outlet for motor carriers, drivers, safety technology developers and users, federal and state partners, and safety advocacy groups to share ideas on how to improve trucking safety. Read more at safetyandhealthmagazine.com.

Study: Posting Road Death Totals on Digital Highway Signs May Be Deadly
Utah often posts messages on its electronic highway signs that say how many people have died on the state’s roads so far this year or season. They’re intended to improve safety, but a new study says the practice actually increases accidents. That’s because the message is so stark that it distracts some drivers and increases crashes nearby, according to a study by Jonathan D. Hall, of the University of Toronto, and Joshua Madsen, of the University of Minnesota. Read more at sltrib.com.

Customs and Border Protection Can Track Cars Nationwide Via Commercial Database
It turns out that U.S. Customs and Border Protection could now keep an eye on your car without even getting a warrant. This month, we learned that CBP bought access to a commercial license plate database, meaning the agency can look up the historical location of cars across the U.S., no legal red tape necessary. CBP revealed the purchase in its updated Privacy Impact Assessment, which discloses that agency had been using commercially owned cameras and license plate readers since 2017, when CBP released the original assessment. Read more at slate.com.

US Cars 'Must Be Left Out of Post-Brexit Trade Deal'
Safety experts are urging the UK government to exclude American cars from any post-Brexit trade deal. They say imported vehicles should meet British safety standards for accidents with pedestrians, cyclists and children. UK PM Boris Johnson has indicated he expects cars to be included in any new transatlantic trade agreement. But safety campaigners point to a spike of pedestrian injuries and deaths in US road accidents. The increase is associated with a boom in large SUVs, which have been engineered to protect passengers but not pedestrians. Read more at bbc.com.
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 week's activity.

**State Troopers @State_Troopers_ | View the Tweet**

Congratulations! To the Georgia State Patrol for being voted the “2021 America’s Best Looking Trooper Cruiser”

The contest received a total of 331,645 votes. Thank you to everyone who participated to make this year’s contest a success and for supporting…

**Ontario Provincial Police @OPP_News | View the Tweet**

With Commercial Motor Vehicle collisions on the rise, what can you do to keep yourself and fellow drivers safe? @CVSA @ONTransport #OperationSafeDriverWeek

**Montana Highway Patrol @MTHwyPatrol | View the Tweet**

Enjoy these photos of #Neowise taken several nights ago.

In the first photo, Dispatcher Justus Johnson captures Trooper Brian Inman's
car.

The second photo was taken by Trooper Tamra Winchell.

When Brigham Young said, "This is the right place, drive on," he didn't mean drive 5+ mph above the speed limit. #messagemonday

A big thumbs up for 100% participation in this month's blood drive with the @SCRedCrossBlood! Thank you to our teammates at the #SCDMV, along with our friends from the @SCDMV_PIO and DPX. Not all heroes wear capes; these heroes give blood. #giveblood #wereinthistogether
Highway Patrol Col. C.N. Williamson asked SCHP troopers to conduct a traffic stop simulation to help you understand what to expect if you’re pulled over for a traffic violation and offer tips on how to interact with an officer during the stop. Full video - https://bit.ly/2OrWyOi

Iowa DOT @iowadot | View the Tweet

Good one @WisconsinDOT!
Driving...it's not child's play. #SlowDown, #BuckleUp and don't drive buzzed.

TO INFINITY AND BEYOND, BUT AT THE SPEED LIMIT

4401 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 700, Arlington, VA 22203