Annual International Conference Next Week

AAMVA's 2019 Annual International Conference (AIC) takes place next week, August 20-22, in Omaha, Nebraska! Register online today!

The conference provides an opportunity for you and your peers to discuss relevant driver's license, motor vehicle and law enforcement related issues. As with every AAMVA conference, the ability to network is one of the most beneficial experiences, and this year's AIC provides several networking opportunities, as well as interactive learning opportunities. Jurisdiction attendees will learn about the successes and challenges of others, share ideas, build relationships, and discover the many products and services provided by our industry partners that can assist in your mission. Industry attendees will have the opportunity to meet with key players in the driver's license, motor vehicle and law enforcement arenas. Visit the 2019 AIC Website for more information and to register!

Minnesota to Join State-to-State Verification Service (S2S)

Minnesota will begin using AAMVA's State-to-State Verification Service (S2S) on Monday, September 30, 2019. Tasks related to on-boarding Minnesota will be conducted during the weekend of September 28, 2019. During this process (Saturday evening to Monday morning), there may be periods during which the CDLIS/S2S Central Site is in inquiry-only mode or is unavailable (over and above the regularly scheduled maintenance window of 2:00 AM ET to 5:00 AM ET on Sunday, September 27, 2019). AAMVA is taking all steps possible to minimize service interruptions and will be sending alerts notifying states of Central Site availability throughout the process. Read more here.

Maryland Is Latest Testing Ground for Tech Aimed at Drunken Driving

Maryland officials are testing new technology installed in vehicles that prevents the car from moving if the driver’s had too much to drink. The Driver Alcohol Detection System for Safety analyzes the driver’s breath — there’s no need for a separate device — and if the sensors in the vehicle pick up a given level of alcohol, the engine will turn over, but the car won’t move. By allowing the car to start, the driver can then charge their phone and call a cab or a ride-hailing service. Read more at wtop.com.

As Real ID Deadline Approaches, MD Lawmaker
Introduces Emergency Legislation to Protect Drivers (Maryland)

A Maryland lawmaker is working to introduce emergency legislation to address what could be a serious problem for drivers who haven’t gotten their Real ID licenses. Del. Eric Ebersole (D-Baltimore, Howard) introduced emergency legislation that would require officers to give drivers a legal document that would still allow them to drive to pick up a Real ID. The law could go into effect as soon as next year, but enforcement begins Oct. 1, 2020. Read more at marylandmatters.org.

MD Recalls 8,000 Real ID Driver’s Licenses (Maryland)

If you’re heading out on the road, double check your license before getting behind the wheel. The Maryland MVA has recalled the driver’s licenses of 8,000 residents because they failed to meet requirements to be in compliance with the Real ID Act. Maryland officials said Thursday 8,000 drivers whose licenses have been recalled are among the first group of customers who failed to present required documentation by early July for a Real ID. Read more at baltimore.cbslocal.com.

How One City Saved $5 Million by Routing School Buses With an Algorithm (Massachusetts)

The yellow school bus has remained largely unchanged since it first debuted in 1939. But while the buses look the same, their routes have grown infinitely more complex in the past 80 years, as the number of students, schools, and road systems grow and change...In 2017, the district was facing serious challenges. On a per-pupil basis, BPS had the highest transportation costs in the country, around $2,000 per student per year, representing 10% of the district’s budget. The schools dealt with rising costs each year, despite declining ridership. Read more at routefifty.com.

Massachusetts Registry Holds Annual Low Number Plate Lottery

The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles is holding its annual lottery for much sought-after low number vehicle license plates. Entries are being accepted online until Aug. 23. Mailed entries must be postmarked by that date. The winners will be announced Sept. 15. Read more at wblp.com.

More Licenses Suspended as RMV Backtracking Continues (Massachusetts)

The Registry of Motor Vehicles suspended the licenses of more than 800 additional drivers in its ongoing review of potential missed violations, with thousands more requiring additional examination, officials said in a status update Thursday. More than 2,400 Massachusetts residents have now had their permission to drive revoked in the past six weeks based on out-of-state violations that the RMV, spurred into action in the wake of a fatal crash, previously failed to handle. Read more at wbur.org.

License Plates From Trash Helped NYC Worker Duck Tolls: Officials (New York)

One car’s trash was this man's treasure. A New York City sanitation worker used license plates plucked from the garbage to dodge thousands of dollars in tickets and tolls, authorities said Wednesday...The 45-year-old worker was arrested Wednesday and the plates were found on his car in the Brooklyn garage where he worked, officials said. He’s charged with grand larceny and obstructing governmental administration, the DOI said...The penalties could not be collected because the plates were not registered to any vehicle, according to the DOI. Read more at patch.com.

Lawmakers Might Bring Back License Plate Stickers With
a New Twist (Pennsylvania)
The state House Transportation Committee is considering a bill to reinstate those little vehicle registration stickers on Pennsylvania license plates...The state eliminated the registration sticker requirement in January 2017 as part of a transportation funding bill approved in 2014. The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation said the move would save $3.1 million annually in the cost of producing the stickers and mailing them to vehicle owners. Read more at post-gazette.com.

PA License Plate Readers Gain Support for Their Use in Crime-Fighting, but Bill Would Address Privacy Concerns (Pennsylvania)
Police departments across the state use specialized cameras to automatically read license plates. Officers say the cameras are a boon to law enforcement, but lawmakers want to make sure the data they capture doesn’t fall into the wrong hands. There are no current guidelines as to how automated license plate readers, or ALPRs, are used in the state. Rep. Greg Rothman, R-Cumberland County, says he hopes to not only manage their use but also set up a statewide database where law enforcement would store and share data, which has the potential to improve crime-solving. Read more at pennlive.com.

Hands-Free Law: Is It Working? GA Highway Safety Discusses at Conference (Georgia)
Allen Poole who is the director of the Governor’s Office of Highway Safety had a message for hundreds of law enforcement officers Monday in Savannah. As he opened a three-day safety conference, he said decreasing traffic deaths is possible. After an increase in the number of traffic fatalities between 2014 and 2016, Poole says there is now a downward trend. He and other safety experts attribute at least part of that to the Georgia Hands-Free Law that became law in July of 2018. Read more at wsav.com.

Georgia Highway Becomes Testbed for Connected Vehicles
A stretch of Interstate highway in Georgia will mark one of the latest developments of connected vehicle infrastructure and technology. The Ray, a section of Interstate 85 in southern Georgia, will be outfitted with connected vehicle technologies as part of a two-year project organized by the Georgia Department of Transportation, Panasonic and The Ray, a stretch of highway named after Ray C. Anderson, a Georgia business leader in green energy. The roadway is a testing ground for innovation in sustainability and transportation. Read more at govtech.com.

Born ‘Unnamed,’ SC Man Hits Legal Snag to Get Real ID. He’s Not Alone (South Carolina)
Clinkscales, who turns 66 in November, had no idea he was about to embark on a months-long process to get his ID, which would lead to him hiring an attorney and waiting for a judge...Clinkscales’ case is far from unusual in South Carolina, particularly for minorities and low-income South Carolinians, legal professionals familiar with these cases say...S.C. Department of Motor Vehicles’ chief Kevin Shwedo said his agency is working aggressively to help South Carolinians who can’t get their REAL ID. Aside from personally attempting to connect people with resources to get one, Shwedo said Motor Vehicles also has taken part in phone banking with at least one television news station and plans to do the same with others across the state very soon. Read more at thestate.com.
TxDOT Details What Caused Most of the Fatal Crashes in 2018 (Texas)

More than 3,600 people died on Texas roadways in 2018, according to data recently released by the Texas Department of Transportation. In a series of reports, TxDOT officials detailed what they call ‘contributing factors’ in the spate of deadly wrecks, which is essentially a list of things that caused each wreck. One fatal wreck can have multiple contributing factors, such as falling asleep or driving while intoxicated. Read more at msn.com.

VA Man Pleads Guilty to Scheme to Provide Fake Maryland Driver’s Licenses to Applicants (Virginia)

A Virginia man pled guilty to a federal charge related to a scheme to provide fake Maryland driver’s licenses to applicants who paid a fee. Warner Portillo, 34, of Manassas, Virginia, pled guilty to conspiracy to produce and transfer identification documents without lawful authority, specifically Maryland driver’s licenses. According to his plea agreement, from at least July 2015 through March 2016, Portillo conspired with two employees of the MVA who worked in the Largo branch office, to produce and transfer Maryland driver’s licenses without lawful authority. Read more at baltimore.cbslocal.com.

DMV Offices Across Nebraska Will Have Shorter Hours During September for Staff Training

Driver licensing offices across Nebraska will be closed some days or hours in September for staff training. The Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles announced that some offices will have reduced hours, while others will close for entire days between Sept. 9 and Sept. 30. The closings will allow driver license examiners to get training on fraudulent document recognition and the latest fraud prevention techniques. It also will allow them to learn about administering the latest version of the commercial driver license and motorcycle skills tests. Read more at omaha.com.

Jail Time for Drivers Who Illegally Pass School Buses Could Soon Become Reality in Avon Lake (Ohio)

A new school year means more school buses will soon be on the roads. And while police in Avon Lake will be beefing up patrols for drivers who illegally pass school buses, one city councilman wants to put violators behind bars. If passed, Avon Lake will become the first in Northeast Ohio to add jail time for drivers [who] illegally pass school buses. Ward IV Councilman David Kos introduced the ordinance that will increase fines from $500-$750, and allow a judge to impose up to a 30-day jail sentence. Read more at fox8.com.

Ohio Freezes Most Law Enforcement Access to Facial-Recognition Analysis of Driver’s License Photos

Most law enforcement agencies in Ohio will lose — at least temporarily — access to a database of roughly 21 million driver's license photos taken in the state after a decision Ohio Attorney General David Yost announced yesterday...After media reports revealed federal law enforcement practices using facial recognition software on state driver's license databases, Yost earlier this year asked for a review of the database and the way officers use it. That inquiry didn’t find any improper conduct, but, before they log back on, Yost wants the roughly 4,500 officers who had access to the system trained on the current weaknesses possible with facial recognition software that could lead to gender or racial bias. Read more at citybeat.com.
This Guy Got the License Plate 'NULL' and It Was a Total Disaster (California)
A cybersecurity expert tested a galaxy-brain plan to hide his car from license plate readers and ticketing systems: registering the vanity license plate 'NULL.' His plan worked, sort of — the NULL plates definitely caused a problem within the system. But they also caused a citation processing center to send the guy, who goes by 'Droogie' in the cybersec community, $18,000 worth of parking tickets and other fines, according to Utah radio station KNRS. Droogie got the first wave of fines dismissed — but his attempt to game the system provides a whimsical warning against throwing a wrench into the mechanism of the DMV. Read more at futurism.com.

Governor Proclaims Aug. 12 'Colorado Motorcycle Memorial Day'
2019 is on pace to become one of the deadliest years on the road this decade for motorcyclists. To date, there have been 65 fatal motorcycle crashes, compared to 60 at this time last year. Since 2012, motorcycle fatalities on Colorado's roads have increased 30 percent. State officials are hoping to increase awareness about motorcycle safety, both for riders and the drivers who share the roads with them. Read more at kktv.com.

As Colorado Considers an Electric-Vehicle Mandate, Here's What to Expect
Whether Colorado becomes a zero-emission vehicle state could be decided this week, as the state Air Quality Control Commission kicks off a three-day hearing on Tuesday. If the commission decides to move forward, Colorado would become the 10th state to adopt California's ZEV policy, which requires automakers to offer a certain number of electric vehicles in those states. Read more at coloradosun.com.

Gender-Neutral Option on Washington State Driver's Licenses Gets First Public Hearing
The first of three public hearings regarding a third gender marker on Washington driver's licenses was held Monday evening. Representatives from the state's Department of Licensing heard public opinion on offering a non-binary option on driver's licenses. Under consideration is the addition of an 'X' when getting a license. The change would also affect instruction permits and state ID cards. Read more at king5.com.

Michelin's NexTraq Unit Launches Digital Safe-Driving Tool
NexTraq L.L.C., a Michelin company focused on telematics solutions, has developed a digital tool that disables drivers' smartphones and tablet screens while their vehicle is in motion. The new tool—dubbed 'MobileBlock'—was developed in partnership with SafeDrivePod International B.V., Michelin said, and is designed to help managers enforce company policies restricting unauthorized use of company-issued tablets and smartphones, thus limiting distractions. Read more at rubbernews.com.

Heidi King, Acting Head of National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Resigns
Heidi King, the acting head of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, has resigned, the U.S. Department of Transportation confirmed Wednesday. The deputy administrator of the nation's top traffic safety watchdog, King was awaiting Senate confirmation to permanently lead the agency. Her resignation is effective
Aug. 31, according to the U.S. DOT...James Owens, U.S. DOT deputy general counsel, will replace King as deputy administrator and will serve as the agency's acting administrator, the U.S. DOT said. Read more at freep.com.

**FMCSA Unveils Proposed Changes to Hours-of-Service Rules**

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration on Aug. 14 issued a long-awaited proposal to make changes to its hours-of-service rules that would increase truck drivers’ flexibility with their 30-minute rest break and with allocating time in a sleeper berth. The proposal also would extend by two hours duty time for drivers encountering adverse weather and expand the current 100 air-mile 'shorthaul' exemption from 12 hours on-duty to 14 hours on-duty, consistent with workday rules for longhaul truck drivers. Read more at ttnews.com.

**New Video Offers Tips on Sharing the Road Safely With Trucks**

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration recently released a video asking motorists to drive safely and distraction-free when sharing the road with commercial motor vehicles. Created as part of FMCSA's Our Roads, Our Safety campaign, the one-minute video features testimony from Wisconsin-based truck driver Dick Pingel, a member of the board of directors for the Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association – a partnering organization in the campaign. Read more at safetyandhealthmagazine.com.

**This Hacker Made Clothes That Can Confuse Automatic License Plate Readers**

In a future where everything is surveilled by computer vision algorithms, even the patterns on our clothing can be subversive. Digital security professional and fashion designer Kate Rose doesn’t just design textile patterns. She sulks the databases gathered by license plate readers by creating clothes covered in fake license plates. If you’ve ever gotten a traffic ticket in the mail—sometimes complete with a photo of your vehicle, with yourself and passengers looking stunned in the front seat—your car has likely encountered an Automatic License Plate Reader, or ALPR. Read more at vice.com.

**Like the Biker a Catasauqua Trucker Allegedly Hit on Purpose, Some Motorcyclists Say They Have Targets on Their Backs**

Santos, a barber from Lower Saucon Township, likes the wind in his face as much as any biker, but he tries to be considerate of other motorists — yielding, signaling lane changes, keeping his distance to the extent possible in the Lehigh Valley’s heavy traffic. It’s a matter of self-preservation. Santos said more than a few car and truck drivers seem to have an inborn resentment toward motorcyclists. So when he read about the Catasauqua truck driver accused of intentionally ramming a motorcyclist whose driving annoyed him, he was bothered but not surprised. According to court records, motorcyclist Paul A. Entler suffered a collapsed lung, multiple broken ribs and a broken leg last week when 54-year-old Matthew E. Dietrich allegedly swerved into him at Race Street and Willowbrook Road in Hanover Township, Lehigh County. Police said Dietrich admitted hitting Entler deliberately because he thought the biker was driving carelessly. Read more at mcall.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 @AAMVACo.

Check out recent @AAMVACo Twitter action.

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

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CVSA @CVSA | View the Tweet

Here they are. Here's your first look at the 51 inspectors who will compete this week to earn the ultimate honor, the 2019 NAIC Grand Champion Award. One of these inspectors will be this year's winner. Who will it be?

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MD State Police @MDSP | View the Tweet

Recent motorcycle crashes are prompting @mdsp to issue a reminder for both motorcyclists and other drivers to take precautions, especially during the remaining warm weather months. Since 7/28, troopers have responded to 6 fatal motorcycle crashes. READ >> https://bit.ly/2KxqhEu

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MD_MVA @MD_MVA | View the Tweet

Administrator Nizer and Governor Hogan demonstrated the Driver Alcohol System
for Safety at #MACOcon. #MDOTInnovates

Learn more in our newsroom: http://bit.ly/2KPpfm2

**New Jersey MVC @NJ_MVC | View the Tweet**

The Garden State’s #Spanishspeaking community has a strong ally in the NJMVC. Chief @SueFulton in her report to MVC Board puts some #salsa on plans to build on successful Spanish language outreach – using everything from #socialmedia to #drivermanuals.

**NYS DMV @nysdmv | View the Tweet**

The family of Colonie teen Niko DiNovo joined @NYS gtsc, DMV, @STOPDWINewYork, and law enforcement to help kick off the annual “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” impaired driving crackdown. The statewide campaign runs from Aug 14 thru Sept 2. Read more here https://dmv.ny.gov/press-release/press-release-08-13-2019 …
Manual Monday: Did you know we have an interactive version of our Drivers Manual? Check it out here: https://dmv.vermont.gov/licenses/driver-training/DriveVT

On August 15, 1969, Neil Kirkman was appointed by Governor Kirk as the first Executive Director of @FLHSMV when the Depts. of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety were merged. Previously Director of #FHP, Neil Kirkman retired in 1970 after 25 years of service. #TBT #BehindTheDrive
Georgia DDS @GeorgiaDDS | View the Tweet

Our Contact Center has seen a Service Level increased from 82.25% in April 2019 to over 87% in June 2019. The team received a Commissioner’s Customer Service Award for their hard work, dedication, and determination to exceeding agency expectations. #ThankYou
Iowa State Patrol @iowastatepatrol | View the Tweet

Who says you have to be a kid to enjoy the big slide at the Iowa State Fair??

Several members of the Iowa State Patrol took a few minutes out of their day to have some fun!

Photo Credit: Dan Ponxs
@IowaStateFair

KansasDOT @DriveSafeKansas | View the Tweet

Today we kicked off the 2019 You Drink. You Drive. You Lose. impaired driving enforcement campaign. Always find a safe and sober way to your destination.