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

2018 Region 3 Conference – Registration Now Open!
Register online today for AAMVA's Region 3 Conference this October in Oak Brook, Illinois. This unique opportunity provides AAMVA members with an intimate and collaborative environment to discuss relevant driver license, motor vehicle and law enforcement issues. As with every AAMVA conference, the ability to network is one of the most beneficial experiences, and this year's conference provides several networking opportunities, as well as interactive learning opportunities. Jurisdiction attendees will learn about the successes and challenges of others, share ideas, and build relationships. Industry attendees will have the opportunity to meet with key players in the driver license, motor vehicle and law enforcement arenas. Visit the 2018 Region 3 Conference website for more information and to register.

Louisiana to Join State-to-State Verification Service (S2S)
Louisiana will begin using the State-to-State Verification Service (S2S) on Monday, Oct 22nd. Tasks related to onboarding Washington will be conducted during the weekend of Oct 20th. 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 2AM to 5AM on Sunday, Oct 21st).

Following Louisiana, several states will be joining the S2S program throughout 2018. Please click here for a full timeline and more information.

It's Blockchain & Biometrics Making Mobile Driver's Licenses Possible (Delaware)
Delaware announced it would conduct a mobile drivers license pilot with 200 state employees and stakeholders in March, according to the state website. For the pilot, the state is working with Massachusetts-based IDEMIA, formerly known as OT-Morpho, a provider of numerous state and government agency identification services. Read the article at efficientgov.com.

Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) Announces New DMV Director
DelDOT Secretary Jennifer Cohan has announced today that Jana Simpler has been hired as the new DMV Director and will join the Department on September 4, 2018. Jana is currently the Director of the Delaware Office of Highway Safety (DE OHS). She started her career in highway safety in 1997, serving as the Deputy Director of DE OHS through 2009 and as the Director for the last eight years. Read the article at news.delaware.gov.
Regional News - September 14, 2018

Tampa, FL
23-25 | 2018 Region 3 Conference

Oak Brook, IL
OCTOBER 23-25

*Register for the following training sessions HERE.

SEPTEMBER

18 | CDL A Overview (basic)
19 | CDL B Inquiry Transactions (basic)
20 | CDL C Update Transactions (basic)
25 | CD01 Search Inquiry (intermediate)
26 | CD02 Verification Inquiry (intermediate)
27 | CD05 AKA Data Inquiry (intermediate)

REGISTER ONLINE!

OUR WEBINARS

SEPTEMBER

18 | NMVTIS State Web Interface (SWI) – How to Correct Title and Brand Data on the Central Site
19 | Using: CD90.7.7 Selective Driver History Record (DHR) Validation & CD90.7.4 Out-of-State (OOS) Convictions and Withdrawals Posting Reports (Jurisdiction Members)
20 | Using: CD90.7.7 Selective Driver History Record Validation and CD90.7.4 Out-of-State Convictions and Withdrawals Posting Reports (Federal Members)

Just Drive - Your Friends Will Understand: Health Unit Hopes to Curb Distracted Driving (Ontario)

Distracted driving kills. That's one of the messages the Community Traffic Awareness Committee (CTAC) in Thunder Bay, Ont., is hoping to get across through its new month-long social media campaign, Just Drive - Your Friends will Understand. Statistics show distracted driving is a factor in one-quarter of all fatal collisions in Canada, with some jurisdictions reporting that it is responsible for more deaths than impaired driving. Read the article at cbc.ca.

8 Out of 10 Canadians Say They Witness Distracted Driving Regularly but Just 38% Admit to Driving Distracted Themselves (Quebec)

Many things can distract drivers behind the wheel – smartphones, other passengers, eating while driving or in-car touch screens– but as the latest Desjardins survey released today indicates, these obvious dangers, especially related to personal smartphone use, are still not clearly being recognized by many Canadian drivers. Canadians know distracted driving is a big risk factor on the road. While 8 in 10 respondents (79%) say they regularly see other drivers using a smartphone behind the wheel, only 38 percent admit to having driven distracted at least once. A further 21% admitted to using their phone while driving within the past year. Read the article at crossroadstoday.com.

Alabama Commissioner’s Order for Hurricane Florence

Due to the state of emergency, Alabama Commissioner Vernon Barnett ordered a temporary suspension of the International Registration Plan (IRP) and International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA) requirements for motor vehicles engaged in interstate disaster relief efforts for Hurricane Florence. Read the press release.

New Citrus Co. Traffic Cameras to Aid Future Evacuations (Florida)

Citrus County saw heavy traffic and slowdowns on U.S. 19 just before Hurricane Irma last year, as people tried to evacuate north. Florida Department of Transportation representatives say now there are new cameras in place to help the agency keep traffic moving in the case of another mass evacuation. Read the article at baynews9.com.

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Issues Emergency Declaration for Hurricane Florence

Regulations for some commercial motor carriers are being waived in Kentucky in advance of Hurricane Florence. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet announced on Tuesday that the order applies to operators heading to the affected areas to deliver goods, restore utilities and remove debris in the wake of Hurricane Florence, which is expected to seriously impact the southeastern United States. The order exempts a driver’s hours of service limitation and weigh station stoppage, suspends registration requirements, and waives permit fees for overweight/over-dimensional vehicles. Read the article at wtvq.com.

Governor Northam Launches First Real-World Testing of Innovative, In-Car Alcohol Detection Technology to Save Lives (Virginia)

In a news conference held [on September 10], Governor Northam launched the Driven to Protect public-private partnership that is developing technology to eliminate drunk driving and save lives on Virginia roads. The partnership is the first between a state government and the Driver Alcohol Detection System for Safety...
Program (DADSS) to deploy in-vehicle alcohol detection sensors (ADS) that will determine when a driver is impaired with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) at or above the legal limit of 0.08 percent. Read the article at prnewswire.com.

Survey Shows 42 Percent of Illinois Teens Texting While Driving
Illinois high school students are more likely to text while behind the wheel than their counterparts nationwide, according to a new study. Some 38 percent of high school students across the nation text while driving, translating to nearly four in 10 students, according to a recent study published in the Journal of Adolescent Health. Read the article at ilnews.org.

Missouri’s Grace Period to Comply with REAL ID Act Extended
The Missouri Department of Revenue says the state has been given more time to comply with identification requirements under the Real ID Act. The department announced Tuesday that the federal government has granted Missouri an extension through Jan. 21, 2019. The current extension ends Oct. 10. Read the article at fox2now.com.

Ohio State Study Uncovers Top Sources of Distracted Driving
There are more distractions than just cellphone use that can cause drivers to take their eyes off the road. The Risk Institute at the Ohio State University has been doing research on distracted driving for more than a year now. The top distractions may not be what you think. Read the article at 10tv.com.

New Legislation Allows Homeless Veterans to Get MVD Fees Waived (Arizona)
Arizona veterans who are homeless have the opportunity to get a driver license or ID card without paying a fee. Under a new state law, effective this month, the Arizona Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Division has the authority to waive the $25 fee for getting a license or ID, according to a press release. Other fees including those for a license suspension or revocation, a road test for drivers moving to Arizona from another state, among others may also be waived, the release said. Read the article at apachejunctionindependent.com.

CDOT’s Comical Signs Have a Serious Message (Colorado)
If you have driven on a Colorado road in recent years, you’ve probably read the work of Sam Cole, communications manager for the Colorado Department of Transportation. ‘I would say just about anyone who has driven in Colorado has seen one of these signs,’ Cole said. Cole, who is based at CDOT’s headquarters in Denver, said it’s part of his job to help reduce traffic fatalities. As part of the effort, he has come up with some interesting one-liners for the digital message signs. ‘We wanted to capture the public’s attention with traffic safety, so we needed to do something different,’ Cole said. Read the article at 9news.com.

Montanans can apply for REAL ID cards in January
The Montana Department of Justice’s Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) has launched a website to provide information about REAL ID. The site provides answers to frequently asked questions and allows people to sign up for an email notification list.
when appointments are available to obtain a REAL ID compliant license. In 2017, the Montana Legislature and Gov. Steve Bullock directed the agency to create an optional driver license that complies with the federal REAL ID Act of 2005. Montanans can apply for a REAL ID beginning in January 2019. 'Over the last year, we’ve been working toward REAL ID implementation by acquiring the necessary equipment to issue compliant credentials and producing outreach materials like this new website,' MVD Administrator Sarah Garcia said in a press release. 'Before the end of the year, we will launch a public service announcement campaign, created through a partnership with MSU-Billings students. We want to give Montanans ample time and accurate information to decide if a REAL ID license is right for them.' Read the article at ktvq.com.

**Impaired Driving Still Top Contributing Factor in State’s Fatal Crashes (Washington)**

Driver impairment due to the use of drugs or alcohol continues to be the No. 1 contributing factor in fatal crashes statewide, according to a new state study, and multi-drug use has become the most common type of impairment observed in fatal crashes. In more than a quarter of fatal crashes where impairment by multiple drugs was a factor, the mix was alcohol and marijuana. The findings come in the Washington Traffic Safety Commission's latest study on impaired driving, which found 61 percent of tested drivers in fatal vehicle crashes from 2008 to 2016 tested positive for alcohol or drugs. Read the article at columbian.com.

**Australia’s NSW Tests Storing Driver’s License Over Blockchain Tech**

With the development of blockchain technology, more and more common things of everyday use are becoming digital. As it has recently been announced, the government of the New South Wales (NSW) in Australia will soon conduct a trial of digital driving licenses. The trial is set on November, 2018, when over 140,000 license holders in Sydney’s Eastern suburbs will get an opportunity to replace a traditional physical plastic card on a modern digital version of it, available via the Service NSW app. Read the article at coinspeaker.com.

**BMW Built a Self-Riding Motorcycle to Help Develop Safety Tech**

Riding a motorcycle is one of life's great pleasures, but unfortunately it does come with its share of risks. Many of those risks are being mitigated by new safety equipment such as lean-sensitive ABS and advanced traction control but life on two wheels is still miles away from what advanced driver assistance systems on modern cars are capable of. BMW Motorrad, ever the driver of technology, is working to change that and in the process of doing so, they made a motorcycle that can drive itself. Read the article at cnet.com.

**Chevrolet App Uses Guilt, Peer Pressure to Curb Distracted Driving**

If people won't listen to common sense when it comes to distracted driving, Chevrolet thinks they might listen to chiding from family and friends. The company's new "Call Me Out" app for Android attempts to use guilt to curb distracted driving. The app uses a phone's accelerometer and GPS to determine if the phone is being picked up while traveling at speeds above five miles per hour. If that movement is detected, the phone plays personalized messages from family and friends encouraging the driver to keep their eyes on the road and their hands off the phone. Read the article at thedrive.com.
Development of Driver Assistance Systems to Support Snowplow Operations
The Center for Transportation Studies at the University of Minnesota has released a report that evaluates the performance and position accuracy of driver assist systems for plowing. Snowplow operators are often tasked with numerous monitoring and operational activities that happen simultaneously in order to remove snow and spread deicing agents on the road. Read the article at trb.org.

Feds Use Facial Recognition to Catch 2nd Person Trying to Enter U.S. Illegally
The 9/11 attacks ushered in a new era of security at airports. Now new facial recognition technology rolling out at checkpoints is showing early signs of success. In the last three weeks, the technology at Washington's Dulles International Airport has been used to catch two imposters trying to illegally enter the U.S. On Monday, a woman from Ghana was caught using someone else's U.S. passport. Last month, a 26-year-old man from the Republic of Congo with his real ID hidden in his shoe tried to enter with another person's French passport. Read the article at cbsnews.com.

Mercedes-Benz's New Mobility Concept is Autonomous, Electric, Modular, and Ugly
On Monday, Mercedes-Benz unveiled the Vision Urbanetic, an all-electric, autonomous concept that the German auto giant thinks will redefine mobility. It's a sign that smartphone makers aren't the only ones that occasionally flirt with modular designs. Big automakers are increasingly interested in powertrain platforms — the undercarriage of a car or van — that can accommodate a bunch of different vehicle bodies on top. The Urbanetic isn't just one type of vehicle; it's an oversized minivan that's capable of seating 12 people for ride-hailing trips or used as a cargo van with two different levels for storage and a total volume of 353 cubic feet. Based on its function, the battery-electric "skateboard" chassis can detach and mate with a different type of body. Read the article at theverge.com.

Researchers Make it Easier for Autonomous Cars to Talk to Each Other
Martti is an autonomous car designed and developed by VTT Research Center. The research vehicle was built on a VW Touareg chassis and has various sensors, laser scanners, antennas, and cameras that communicate with its sister car, Marilyn, and help it drive in any condition. Back in December, Martti became the first Finnish autonomous vehicle to drive on a road covered in real snow. Researchers at VTT recently partnered with Nokia to hook Martti up with radio equipment and a 5G connection. The network will allow the vehicle to improve object identification. It will also help lay a foundation that will help improve vehicle-to-vehicle communication. Read the article at thomasnet.com.

On Twitter
@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!***
AASHTO @aashtospeaks | View the Tweet
Spare a thought this morning for our friends, first responders and colleagues at the @NCDOT, @SCDOTPress, @GADeptofTrans, @VaDOT and their continued safety as #HurricaneFlorence makes landfall.

Austin Police Dept @Austin_Police | View the Tweet
Happy #NationalPoliceWomanDay to all of our sisters in blue! #AustinPD #SaferTogether
NCDOT @NCDOT | View the Tweet
Is water on the roads really that dangerous? You hear it a lot, but turn around, don't drown. Trying to save a few minutes is not worth your life. #FlorenceNC

Road to Zero @RoadToZeroUS | View the Tweet
High, stoned, or baked – it doesn’t matter what you call it, if you have consumed marijuana, you shouldn’t be behind the wheel. If you feel different, you drive different.
#ImpairedDriving
#IfYouFeelDifferentYouDriveDifferent
@NHTSAgov

Tennessee Highway Safety Office @TNHSO | View the Tweet
Don’t multitask in the car, because if you do anything else besides driving, you’re not really driving. #JustDrive
Texas Department of Transportation @TxDOT | View the Tweet
Here's to hoping this catchy tune gets stuck in your head. It could save your life.
#TurnAroundDontDrown