NMVTIS Annual Report and Financial Audit Now Available

The National Motor Vehicle Title Information System (NMVTIS) Final Rule requires AAMVA, as the system operator, to prepare an annual report and procure an independent financial audit. The NMVTIS 2018 Annual Report is the 10th publication and was recently published by the U.S. Department of Justice. It covers October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018 and details the performance of NMVTIS during the twelve month reporting period.

Mobile Tiny Houses No Longer Registered, Titled as Vehicles (Maine)

Maine state officials say mobile tiny homes will no longer be recognized by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. Deputy secretary of state Patty Morneault wrote in a June 25 notification to municipalities that the bureau will no longer register, title, or assign vehicle identification numbers to such units. The Bangor Daily News reports owners had been able to move their tiny houses freely because the state treated them like recreational vehicles. But Morneault said they don’t comply with the definition of a trailer and are subject to building codes. Read more at whdh.com.

Seat Belt See, Seat Belt Do (Maryland)

Setting a good example by using seat belts could help save lives, according to a survey done by Maryland transportation officials. The 2019 Roadside Observation Seat Belt Survey found that passengers use seat belts 93% of the time when the driver also is belted, and only 40% of the time when the driver is unbelted. The survey, conducted by the Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration, observed 32,433 vehicles in 13 jurisdictions across Maryland. Read more at marylandmatters.org.

Vision Zero ‘Right of Way’ Law Is Constitutional, Appeals Court Rules (New York)

A controversial law enacted as part of Mayor Bill de Blasio’s “Vision Zero” plan — which allows motorists who kill or injure cyclists and pedestrians to be slapped with criminal penalties — is constitutional, an appeals court in Manhattan has found...Some judges have previously ruled the law unconstitutional because it puts the burden on drivers to show that they weren’t driving negligently. But the appeals
court disagreed with Torres' argument that the law is unconstitutional, finding that, with regard to offenses that affect the public welfare, "criminal penalties may be imposed without regard to mental culpability." Read more at nypost.com.

Why Driver's Ed Is Not Required in Pennsylvania – Even Though It Reduces Traffic Deaths
Fred Simeone, who runs a classic car museum in Southwest Philadelphia and was recently named the No. 1 most significant collector in the world, has been lobbying for the state to require driver’s education. Ideally, he said, instruction would be incorporated into the public school curriculum. The retired neurosurgeon spent 40 years in the medical field, regularly treating injuries sustained in car accidents — oftentimes by teenagers. Read more at billypenn.com.

PennDOT Gets $8.4 Million Federal Grant to Study Self-Driving Vehicles in Work Zones (Pennsylvania)
The long-standing expectation has been that the development of self-driving vehicles would substantially improve safety because they would take away accidents caused by human error and distracted driving. But one driving circumstance that almost all of the companies have avoided so far is driving through work zones. That’s because those areas don’t provide the regular pattern self-driving vehicles thrive on and have out-of-the-norm items such as construction barrels and lane markings that aren’t as distinctive as on regular roads. Read more at post-gazette.com.

Vermont Schools Grapple With Bus Driver Shortage
A tight labor market is making the perennial headache of finding school bus drivers even more difficult across Vermont. “Just about every school district is looking for drivers,” said Todd Parah, the director of athletics, facilities and transportation at Green Mountain Union High School. Vermont is no outlier. The shortage is country-wide. Media outlets across the U.S. have reported stories of students squatting in the aisle on overcrowded busses, schools postponing sports games, and, in one case, a district cancelling school altogether because it couldn’t get its students to class. Read more at vtdigger.org.

25 Most Popular Specialty License Plates in Alabama
When it comes to specialty license plates in Alabama, nobody tops the Tide...According to the Alabama Department of Revenue’s most-recent figures, there are 109,864 UA tags in the state, the only specialty plate to top the 100,000 mark. Here’s the top 25 selling specialty plates in Alabama (list does not include tags that are only available to qualified individuals, such as tags for disabled veterans or firefighters; or tags such as the “God Bless America” tag that only require a fee if personalized.) Read more at al.com.

Public Advised to Get Passports as Kentucky Announces Real ID Changes
The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet is changing where you will get your Real ID. After KYTC’s system of issuing them at county clerks offices in the pilot program counties of Frankfort and Woodruff did not work, the cabinet is putting that on pause...That is why KYTC canceled its plan to have the service available at all county clerks offices, and will look to open regional offices. With the Real ID rollout now put on pause, those in the County Circuit Clerk's Office are advising people to apply for passports. Read more at wpsdlocal6.com.

The Summertime Lines at the North Carolina DMV Weren’t
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REGISTER ONLINE!

as Long This Year. Here’s Why.
The Division of Motor Vehicles says changes it made this year decreased wait times at its driver’s license offices this summer, reducing the long lines that made headlines and frustrated customers last year. People waited an average of 49 minutes to be served in DMV offices in August, the agency’s busiest month. That was half the 100-minute average the same month last summer, according to DMV data. And the share of customers who waited more than two hours — a key metric that the DMV highlights in red — declined from 31% last August to 9%. Read more at journalnow.com.

Real ID Expected to Get Extension as Mobile ID Rolls Out (Oklahoma)
As Mobile ID prepares to roll out in Oklahoma on October 15, officials with the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety say they're in the final stages of getting yet another Real ID extension, this time to October 2020...Mobile ID is in its open beta test, so anyone over 21 years old with an Apple device can sign up here to have a download link sent to their email. If you're under 21 or have an Android device, you will be able to download the app when it officially goes live on October 15. Read more at kjrh.com.

Jesse White's Office Denies Census Bureau Request for Driver's License Citizenship Data (Illinois)
Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White's office confirmed Monday it denied what appears to be the federal government's latest attempt to gather data about noncitizens living in the United States, this time through driver's license information. White's spokesman, Dave Drucker, said during a phone interview Monday with Capitol News Illinois that the agency received the request from the U.S. Census Bureau's Data Acquisition Branch on Sept. 17, and promptly denied the request. Read more at dailyherald.com.

Illinois Issues 300,000 Real IDs in Six Months
It took Illinois longer than many states to begin issuing Real ID-compliant licenses and state IDs, but the process got underway throughout the state in earnest at the end of March. So far, Secretary of State Jesse White’s office said it has issued an estimated 300,000 of the documents. "We are doing it at a rate of over 3,000 a day," said White spokesman Henry Haupt...Here are some things to know when deciding whether or not to obtain a Real ID compliant driver’s license or state identification card. Read more at sj-r.com.

Blackout License Plates Bringing in Big Bucks for State of Iowa
The Iowa Department of Transportation has made an estimated $850,000 through September on the popular blackout license plates, according to numbers. And they anticipate making even more money by year's end. Vehicle owners can purchase standard number blackout plates online or at their local treasurer’s office...The Iowa DOT says approximately 19,500 blackout plates have been issued so far. Read more at siouxlandproud.com.

Department of Revenue to Wheel out Pilot Program Mobile Unit in Potosi (Missouri)
The Missouri Department of Revenue’s new mobile unit is heading to Potosi to assist with residents’ tax, motor vehicle and driver licensing questions...The mobile unit is part of a pilot program that includes visits to eight county resource centers located throughout Missouri over the course of three months. Department staff will
be available to answer questions relating to property tax credits, current and past years’ individual income tax returns, withholding tax forms, sales and use tax, withholding tax, motor vehicle titling and registration, REAL ID, driver license status and more. Read more at mymoinfo.com.

Some Protected-Status Immigrants in Legal Limbo Having Trouble Renewing Nebraska Driver’s Licenses
Several people from El Salvador who are in the country legally through what is known as temporary protected status said Friday that they’re encountering new problems when trying to renew their Nebraska driver’s licenses. Jose Molina, 49, said this issue is very important to him and others. He tried to renew his driver’s license with the same documents he normally does but was denied and is not sure why, he said during a meeting Friday at Creighton University with Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles officials and representatives from the office of Rep. Don Bacon, R-Neb. Read more at kearneyhub.com.

Ohio Increases Air Patrols to Catch Distracted Drivers
The state of Ohio has launched a new enforcement push from the sky to stop distracted and aggressive driving. Distracted driving, which includes texting, talking on the phone or other behaviors, was a factor in 13,727 crashes in Ohio last year. Fifty-one people died in those accidents and 6,860 people were injured, the patrol statistics show...Ohio law prohibits drivers younger than 18 from using electronic wireless communication devices while driving. Texting while driving is illegal for all drivers but it’s a secondary offense, which means police can only pull the driver over for another infraction such as speeding. Read more at daytondailynews.com.

Driver's License Thefts Spur ADOT to Boost Online Safeguards (Arizona)
Arizona transportation officials are bolstering security around a state website in the wake of identity thieves stealing driver's licenses. The Arizona Department of Transportation announced Thursday that it would take "aggressive" steps to stop thieves from fraudulently getting driver’s licenses. Before, license holders could go onto ServiceArizona.com and order a duplicate driver's license and have it sent to any address. ADOT says thieves have been exploiting that option. Read more at 12news.com.

Coquitlam RCMP Seize Van for Very Obvious Forged Licence Plate Sticker (British Columbia)
Coquitlam RCMP is urging drivers to “avoid getting creative” when it comes to their vehicle’s licence plate. This comes after police seized an altered licence plate off of a van with a handmade plate sticker in June 2019. It was towed from Port Coquitlam after a citizen called and reported the vehicle as suspicious. "We’re used to hearing creative excuses for people trying to get out of a ticket, but I’d love to have heard this driver’s explanation," said Cpl. Michael McLaughlin with Coquitlam RCMP, in a statement. Read more at dailyhive.com.

California DMV Launches Credit-Card Payment Pilot Program
Starting Monday, Sept. 30, the Davis DMV Office will be the first in the state of California to accept credit cards as a form of payment, the California Department of Motor Vehicles announced in a news release Wednesday...The pilot program follows recommendations made by Gov. Gavin Newsom's Strike Team, according to DMV public affairs representatives. "This credit-card option is one more way we are improving the customer experience at the DMV," said DMV Director Steve Gordon. Read more at patch.com.
DMV Answers Real ID Questions in Preparation for Upcoming Changes (California)
Next year will bring big changes in the way you use your drivers license or ID. That’s why we teamed up with the Department of Motor Vehicles to keep you informed. The station hosted a phone bank Wednesday and questions flooded in. Jaime Garza a DMV spokesman worked to put all confusion to rest, with a simple break down of what a Real ID is exactly. Read more at yourcentralvalley.com.

Video: Montana DOT Director’s Goal Is Zero Highway Fatalities
Mike Tooley, director of the Montana Department of Transportation, calls the number of people killed annually on U.S. highways “shocking.” Right now, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that 36,700 people died on America’s roads in 2018 – and while that is down 1 percent from the 37,133 who died in motor vehicle crashes in 2017, it is still far too many to his mind. Read more at aashtojournal.org.

Nevada No Longer Issuing Separate Longer Combination Vehicle (LCV) Permits
With the passage of AB320 during the 2019 Nevada Legislative Session effective January 1, 2020, Nevada will no longer issue separate Longer Combination Vehicle (LCV) permits. Rather, motor carriers operating vehicles in Nevada in excess of 80,000 pounds with reducible loads, can now declare their requested operating weight through their vehicle registration and operate any legal combination (bridge formula) within that declared weight range.

To avoid being cited, Motor Carriers traveling through Nevada under the International Registration Plan in excess of 80,000 pounds must make sure they contact their base jurisdiction to increase their weight for Nevada so the higher registered weight is on their cab card. They can operate any legal reducible combination within the weight category they register at. The increased weight deems them “permitted” to operate a legal combination over 70 feet in length.

AB320 does not apply to vehicles with non-reducible loads, special routing requirements, or special permits, such as super-loads. Those permits must still be purchased through the Nevada Department of Transportation. Read more at leg.state.nv.us.

Nevada DMV to Launch Mileage Reporting Requirement October 1
The Nevada DMV is ready to implement odometer reporting requirements passed by the 2019 Legislature. A six-year pilot project begins Tuesday. Assembly Bill 483 (AB 483) directs the DMV to gather an odometer reading at the time of any original vehicle registration, registration renewal or vehicle sale. Motorcycles and mopeds are exempt, as are certain other vehicles such as farm vehicles. To help minimize the impact, the DMV will use the odometer readings from emissions tests performed in Clark and Washoe Counties. Read more at ktvn.com.

Want to Save $10k a Year? Utah Officials Predict Future Where People Dump Their Cars in Favor of Transit, Scooters, Bikes and Ride-Hailing.
Utah officials foresee that in the not-distant future, improved smartphone tools will ease the use of transportation options that might just kill off the need for personal cars — or at least help most families reduce from two cars to one. That’s because smartphone apps are increasingly making it easier to plan and use everything from mass transit to ride-hailing, e-scooters, taxis and bicycles in the same trip. Read
DMV Check: How to Beat the Crowds When You Upgrade to Real ID
In just over a year, your good ol’ driver’s license may no longer get you through airport security...A year may sound like a lot of time, but replacing your driver’s license with a Real ID isn’t always as simple as a quick trip to the DMV. A significant number of applicants are turned away the first time they apply. “We do not track the number of customers who do not bring all of proof documents required by federal law on their first visit,” says Brandy Brubaker, spokesperson for the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles. “Speaking anecdotally, I would estimate about 70 percent of our customers come fully prepared.” But that leaves almost a third of applicants who need to make a second trip to the DMV. Read more at forbes.com.

Short-Term Memory Loss May Be Why Drivers Don't See Bikes
The number of near misses that every experienced motorcyclist can report would surely raise the hair on the backs of the necks of our loved ones. No matter how careful we may try to be, or how many precautions we may try to take, or even how hard we cling to ATGATT, there are always factors we can’t control. Many of those are the other road users around us—and particularly, drivers. A new study from the University of Nottingham in the UK found that the reason why some car drivers don't see us may not be what we think...According to university researchers, the failure may not be inattention on the part of those drivers after all. Instead, it may be short-term memory loss. Read more at rideapart.com.

Why Truck Makers Are Skipping Level 3
What do the 2009 crash of Air France Flight 447 and a seminal 2012 study by Google on how people interact with self-driving cars have in common? Both strongly indicate that humans struggle to operate automated vehicles safely in cases where they can disengage from the driving task but must always be ready to assume control when prompted...The 2012 Google study showed that humans are prone to overreliance on cars’ automated driving systems that steer, brake and accelerate autonomously in certain conditions with no human input required, but still require that the driver remain on call to resume control when needed...In other words, the consensus is that drivers must either remain constantly engaged when in a vehicle with self-driving capabilities, or completely disengaged with no risk of having to assume control of the vehicle on short notice. Read more at ttnews.com.

In Australia, Cameras and A.I. Are Identifying Drivers Using Their Phones While at the Wheel
Authorities in New South Wales, Australia, are to introduce a cell phone detection camera program by the end of this year. The announcement, made over the weekend, follows a six-month pilot which took place between January and June. During that trial, technology supplied by a firm called Acusensus was able to check 8.5 million vehicles and determined that over 100,000 drivers had been using their phones illegally. It’s envisioned that after starting this year, the program will expand to carry out 135 million vehicle checks each year by 2023. Read more at cnbc.com.

Questions Older Drivers Can Ask Themselves to See If It’s Still Safe to Drive
The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration notes that, as people age, certain changes they experience can affect their ability to safely operate an automobile. Changes in eyesight, physical fitness and reflexes may require aging drivers to reassess their skills behind the wheel. The NHTSA notes that drivers can...
ask themselves the following questions as they try to assess their driving abilities. Read more at dailystarjournal.com.

**Ride-Sharing Alone Scares Some Just as Much as Taking a Self-Driving Car, Survey Finds**

Would you rather take an Uber ride home alone late at night or have a self-driving taxi service come pick you up with no one at the front wheel? The prospect of riding in a car with only a stranger driving can feel as unsafe as some people feel about new self-driving technology, as a study from car insurance company The Zebra recently found. After surveying 2,000 American passengers in August, 53 percent of those surveyed said they felt safer in an autonomous vehicle than a solo ride with a driver. Read more at mashable.com.

**You Can Now Play 'Jeopardy!' While Driving - Is It Safe?**

You're commute may get interesting when you play this ‘Jeopardy!’ game in the car. The gameshow ‘Jeopardy’ is now made for the car by a commuter trivia app called Drivetime. According to CNN Business, the app was founded last year and the company wants to make driving way more fun through safe games...Experts are weighing in on the app and its use while driving. Read more at radio.com.

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**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 @AAMVAConnection.

Check out recent @AAMVAConnection Twitter action.

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

**MD State Police @MDSP | View the Tweet**

Twenty-one @mdsp troopers were recognized yesterday by the @tzd_maryland for their enforcement efforts to combat #aggressivedriving in 2019. LEARN MORE >> https://towardzerodeathsmd.com/aggressive-driving/ … @MDOTNews @RobLongSports
NYS DMV @nysdmv | View the Tweet

We are so grateful for these kind words. Although DMV Appreciation Week is coming to an end, we remain committed every day to spreading the word about the importance of organ donation. https://dmv.ny.gov/more-info/register-become-organ-eye-or-tissue-donor …

Donate Life New York State @DonateLifeNYS
"I am so incredibly thankful for the advocacy and dedication from the employees at the @nysdmv! You are the ones who raise awareness every single day and there is a big chance I wouldn’t be here today without you!" - Katie O’Donnell, liver recipient.
Paul Grimaldi @PaulEGrimaldi | View the Tweet

In studio recording #REALID ads for upcoming #RhodelIsland #driverslicense outreach campaign.

SCDMV @SC_DMV | View the Tweet

The 66 branch managers from across the state are at #SCDMV #HQ today for an update on all things DMV. Thank for your service to the state, managers!
"Come to us now. We are here to help you get what you need. Don't wait to get a #REALID," says DVS Director Emma Corrie. REAL ID deadline is Oct. 1, 2020. More: http://REALID.dps.mn.gov
Hey Central Valley - we're all set to answer #REALID questions today on Fresno's @KSEE24 and @CBS47 from 3 to 7:30 p.m. Be sure to tune in!

CO Dept. of Revenue @CO_Revenue | View the Tweet

Couldn't do it without you, @DonateLifeCO! We're so thankful for the support during #NationalDMVAppreciationWeek - and every week. #SayYes #DonateLife

Montana MVD @MT_MVD | View the Tweet

Big shout out to LifeCenter Northwest, and all the work they do for donor families and those receiving donations. Thank you for the appreciation and the continued partnership to give the gift of life!
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