Global DMV Summit Concludes

A small gathering of representatives from North America, Europe, and Australia met last week in Melbourne, Australia to discuss topics of global interest, such as vehicle and identity management, data sharing, and the impact of technology and innovation. In addition to sharing best practices and lessons learned across the globe, participants agreed this gathering was the beginning of what could lead for new international cooperation in many areas such as automated driving systems, driver license foreign reciprocity, mobile driver licenses, AV harmonization, and DL foreign reciprocity. The AAMVA delegation consisted of Ian Grossman, Loffie Jordaan, Corey Lorenz (IA), Mike McCaskill (FL) Chrissy Nizer (MD), and Bernard Soriano (CA).

North Carolina to Join State-to-State Verification Service (S2S)

North Carolina will begin using the State-to-State Verification Service (S2S) on Monday, February 11th. Tasks related to on-boarding North Carolina will be conducted during the weekend of February 9th. 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, February 10th).

Following North Carolina, several states will be joining the S2S program throughout 2019. Please click here for a full timeline and more information.

AAMVA Awards Program 2019 - Call for Entries

Apply now for AAMVA’s Awards Program! Don't miss this opportunity to be recognized for the great work your jurisdiction does every day improving day-to-day business, reaching out to the community, and saving lives. The AAMVA Awards Program recognizes members of the motor vehicle and law enforcement community by honoring individuals, teams, and organizations who have committed their time and resources to the following categories: Safety, Service, Security, Public Affairs & Consumer Education (PACE), and International Driver Examiner Certification (IDEC).
AAMVA Awards are open to all AAMVA jurisdiction members that are in good standing. Entries submitted for the 2019 Awards must have been conducted (produced, implemented, and/or developed) between October 1, 2017 and September 30, 2018. If an entry won an award in 2018, it cannot be resubmitted in 2019 unless it has major upgrades or developments.

'Most Drivers' Stopped by Police Will Likely be Tested for Drunk Driving: RCMP (Ontario)

Police officers in Canada who lawfully pull over a driver no longer need reasonable grounds to demand a sample of their breath. New changes in the Criminal Code that came into effect Tuesday give officers more authority when screening drivers for alcohol in hopes of reducing impaired driving and the number of deadly collisions. Previously, when a driver was pulled over at a checkpoint or for violating traffic laws, an officer needed reasonable suspicion to request a breath sample to determine blood alcohol concentration. Read the article at cbc.ca.

Uber Approved to Resume Autonomous Car Tests in Pittsburgh (Pennsylvania)

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation has approved Uber’s request to resume testing of autonomous vehicles on public roads in the Pittsburgh area. The approval, effective Monday and lasting for one year, comes about nine months after one of Uber's autonomous test vehicles hit and killed an Arizona pedestrian. Testing was suspended after March 18 crash in Tempe, Arizona. Read the article at washingtonpost.com.

Voluntary IDs, as Well as Driver's Licences, Become Free on P.E.I. Jan. 1 (Prince Edward Island)

As of Jan. 1, Islanders will be able to renew their driver's licences for free. And those who don't drive will be able to get a free government-issued voluntary ID. Graham Miner, P.E.I.'s director of highway safety, says the voluntary IDs will make life easier for people who don't drive, but require an ID. 'Without proper identification, it's very difficult as a citizen in a province or in a country to participate within all parts of that society,' Miner said. 'Whether it's applying for government programs, the cashing of cheques, getting identification just to go on a plane to go on a domestic flight, to open a bank account, maybe to get a cellphone account or a contract or anything related to that.' Previously, voluntary IDs would cost $50. Read the article at cbc.ca.

'Hands-free' Florida Bill Would Allow Drivers to 'Tap' Cellphones

One day after Florida state Rep. Jackie Toledo announced she will file a bill that would ban Florida drivers from holding their phones while behind the wheel, she...
clarified that drivers would be allowed 'one tap.' Toledo (R-Tampa) said drivers could tap their phone to answer or decline a call but not program an address, Google something or send text messages. Read the article at clickorlando.com.

Drive Safe Atlanta Contest Invites Georgia Teens to Help Create Message About Buckling Up Seat Belts
Teens from Atlanta and throughout the state of Georgia are being invited to help spread the word about the need to buckle up for safety in the third annual Drive Safe Atlanta PSA Contest. The contest, sponsored by The National Road Safety Foundation in conjunction with the Atlanta International Auto Show, which runs from March 20 – 24, 2019, invites teens ages 13 through 19 to submit ideas for a 30-second public service announcement about seat belts, which experts say are the most effective lifesaving tool in the event of a crash. Read the article at prnewswire.com.

Tipsy? Louisiana Partners with Lyft for Holiday Ride Discounts
Louisianans who have too much to drink during the holidays can get discounted rides home from Lyft in a partnership with the Louisiana Highway Safety Commission. The $5 discounts will be available in Baton Rouge, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Monroe, New Orleans and Shreveport for those who use the code 'RIDESMARTLA' in the Lyft app. Louisiana is one of five states that secured funding through Lyft and the Governors Highway Safety Association to offer the discount from the ride sharing company. Read the article at wwtv.com.

Minnesota Department of Transportation Program Uses Living Fences to Combat Icy Crashes
For the past couple of years, Ted Komnder has left a swath of cornstalks standing along a stretch of his farm that borders Hwy. 169 near Belle Plaine — on purpose. Unknown to thousands of motorists speeding along the busy thoroughfare every day, Komnder's standing corn rows are a critical part of a Minnesota Department of Transportation program to combat snow blowing onto the highway. Read the article at startribune.com.

'You Are Not Invincible': Ohio Officer Writes Letter After Teen Drives 100 MPH
An Ohio police officer stopped a teen driver going 100 miles per hour in a 65 zone, and then penned an emotional letter to the 18-year-old, warning him about the dangers of reckless driving. The North Ridgeville Police Department shared the officer's note on Facebook and it quickly gained widespread attention. The officer was brutally honest, and many people praised him for his powerful words to the young man. The officer addressed the message to 'the 18 year old kid I stopped on SR 10,' and told the teen 'You're welcome.' Read the article at wsaw.com.

OSU Study: Roundabouts Could Be Key to Stopping Distracted Driving (Ohio)
A study by the Risk Institute at The Ohio State University has found roundabouts prevent distracted driving. The university research group studied driver response and behaviors and found no fatalities within Ohio roundabouts. 'Focusing on roundabouts, we saw no fatalities at all within roundabouts as contrasted to a more conventional cross intersection,' said Executive Director of Risk Institute Phil Renaud. 'There's plenty of signage that requires people to yield and pay attention as they approach the roundabout.' Read the article at 10tv.com.
Self-Driving Cars Are Coming and Ohio Lawmakers Want to Have a Plan
Autonomous and connected vehicles are already here in some form or fashion. Mostly, they are equipped with low-level autonomy for things like assisted braking, parking or staying in your lane. Advancements are coming quickly and inevitably. As such, the Ohio House of Representatives Transportation Committee has just completed a year-long study of the subject and is about to release a report of its findings and recommendations. Read the article at wkbn.com.

Arizona Tallies 21 Assault Cases Against Waymo Self-Driving Cars
Not everyone is completely in love with Waymo's self-driving cars zipping around local Arizona roads. The Arizona Republic reported Monday that the state has seen 21 cases in which an individual has assaulted a Waymo self-driving car over the past two years. According to the report, people have thrown rocks, slashed tires, and harassed the cars with human safety drivers inside. Another incident involved a Jeep driver running the self-driving cars off of the road. One individual reportedly pulled a handgun and aimed it at the car as it drove by...An information systems lecturer at Arizona State University told the newspaper that the aggression likely isn't due to the cars themselves, but what they represent: more automation and the fear of job losses. Read the article at kpic.com.

What to Know: California's New DMV Laws for 2019
With the New Year just around the corner, the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) wants to inform the public about several new laws or changes to existing law that, unless otherwise noted, take effect January 1, 2019. Temporary License Plate Program (AB 516, Mullin): This law requires licensed California dealers, of new and used vehicles to attach temporary paper license plates on a vehicle at the point of sale if that vehicle does not display license plates previously issued by the DMV. The temporary license plates contain a unique number and expiration date. No vehicle can be driven off the dealership lot without the temporary license plate affixed to it unless it already has issued plates. The intent of this new law is to reduce the number of toll violators and improve safety for law enforcement.... Read the article at dmv.ca.gov.

The DMV Says Wait Times in California Have Dropped Steeply. Here's Why
Wait times at California Department of Motor Vehicle offices exploded this year, after the agency began issuing Real IDs — driver's licenses and identity cards with enhanced security features. Over the summer, following outrage from the public, the media and politicians, the DMV pledged to clean up its act. The DMV is now reporting a 65-percent reduction in wait times since launching a series of task forces, technological improvements, and hiring nearly 1,500 additional employees. Read the article at sfgate.com.

Drivers Can Now Apply for Gold Star Marked Licenses Online (Hawaii)
Honolulu residents can now apply online for a driver's license with a 'gold star' marking, which makes it compliant with federal REAL ID standards. To do so, the city must already have on file your proof of legal presence, legal name, date of birth, social security number and address. The goal is to reduce wait times at the DMV. Read the article at kitv.com.

DMV Releases Audio Driver Handbooks (Nevada)
The Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles has released audio versions of the Nevada Driver Handbook in both English and Spanish...In general, audio books have traditionally been used to assist second-language learners, learning-impaired students, struggling readers and non-readers. The audio handbooks will help drivers in all of these groups learn the rules of the road and Nevada-specific laws. 'Our goal is to help make Nevada's roads safer by providing driver training in a variety of formats,' said DMV Acting Director Cyndie Munoz. Read the article at dmvnv.com.

Utah to Begin Enforcing Strictest D.U.I. Law in Country
In Utah, ringing in 2019 may include one less call for alcohol. Just before New Year's Eve, the state will begin enforcing the strictest drunken-driving regulation in the country when it officially lowers the allowable blood-alcohol content limit to .05. The move comes as the Utah authorities report an average of 30 D.U.I. arrests every day and as states nationwide struggle to prevent the deaths of motorists. Read the article at nytimes.com.

AD Council and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration: Project Roadblock Holiday Party by OMD
To make American roads safer during the holiday season, the Television Bureau of Advertising (TVB) and the Ad Council have introduced the 15th annual 'Project Roadblock' anti-drinking and driving effort, the largest annual TV station-supported initiative of a single public service campaign. Read the article at thedrum.com.

Be Winter Ready with NHTSA's Driving Tips
If you live in a part of the country that gets snow and ice, are you prepared to drive in those conditions? Planning and preventative maintenance are important year-round—but especially when it comes to winter driving.

- Check for recalls – No matter the season use our VIN lookup tool at NHTSA.gov/recalls to make sure your vehicle is recall free.
- Battery and tire check – If you plan to use snow tires, have them installed before a snow storm hits. Understand how your battery will start, and run, differently in cold weather for gasoline or diesel engines, and electric and hybrid-electric vehicles.
- Stock your vehicle – Carry items in your vehicle to handle common winter driving-related tasks, such as cleaning off your windshield, as well as any supplies you might need in an emergency.

Read the article at nhtsa.gov.

Buyer Beware: Some Cars Flooded During Hurricanes Still on the Market
Some 750,000 cars were flooded during Hurricanes Florence, Harvey and Irma. Many were taken off the market, but experts warn that some have been refurbished and resold. NBC’s Tammy Leitner looks into what you need to know as you shop for a used vehicle. Watch the video at nbcnews.com.

GHSA Directions in Highway Safety
The most recent GHSA newsletter 'Directions in Highway Safety,' is out now. This edition features a reflection on traffic safety in 2018 as well as articles on GHSA's state grant programs, rural road safety, e-scooters, new state campaigns, and much more. Read the newsletter at my.ghsa.org.

New Road Markings for Motorcyclists. What Do You Think?
The Roads Authority in Luxemburg tested for a couple of months a new system of road markings dedicated to motorcyclists. At the end of June, the State Roads and Bridges Administration in Luxemburg developed a road marking system that guides the motorcyclists in the bends, so they could keep a safe distance from the median line and use more the middle of their lane. After a couple of months, they are back with the results: it made the riding safer. Read the article at riders.drivemag.com.

NHTSA Reminds Motorists to Drive Sober This Holiday Season
This holiday season, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is reminding Americans that it is never okay to drive impaired. Motorists traveling in the coming weeks can expect to see increased law enforcement on the road as part of the high-visibility Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign, running from December 14 to 31. This year, for the first time, NHTSA’s annual Drive Sober campaign has expanded to focus not just on drunk, but also on drug-impaired driving with the If You Feel Different, You Drive Different campaign. Read the article at nhtsa.gov.

States Receive New Federal Drugged Driving Grants
Through federal funding from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) is pleased to announce that six states have received more than $100,000 in funding to help law enforcement better address drug-impaired driving. With these grants, State Highway Safety Offices (SHSOs) in Delaware, Guam, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Oklahoma and West Virginia will provide additional Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) and Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) training to more than 450 officers. This training is instrumental in removing drug-impaired drivers from the roads, equipping law enforcement with the skills needed to accurately identify, test and subsequently arrest drugged drivers. Read the article at ghsa.org.

WHO Report Indicates Global Road Traffic Deaths Keep Rising
A new report by the World Health Organization indicates road traffic deaths continue to increase, now topping 1.35 million fatalities annually. The group's 2018 road safety report also noted that road traffic injuries are now the leading killer of children and young people aged five to 29 worldwide. However, the report also noted that – despite the increase in the overall number of deaths – the rates of death due to road traffic incidents relative to the size of the world population stabilized in recent years, suggesting that existing road safety efforts in some middle- and high-income countries are 'mitigating' the situation. Read the article at aashtojournal.org.

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_MVA @MD_MVA | View the Tweet
Happy Holidays from our Cumberland branch! #uglysweater #HappyHolidays
Massachusetts RMV @MassRMV | View the Tweet
Officer's message to 18-year-old ticketed for driving 100 mph goes viral
https://www.westernmassnews.com/officer-s-mess... via @WMassNews

VermontDMV @VTDMV | View the Tweet
Reminder: DMV offices will be closed #Christmas Day 12/25 & New Year's Day 1/1. DMV Offices will be open Christmas Eve & New Years Eve.
Check out the video for a special cameo from Senator Francis K. Brooks!
Georgia DPS @ga_dps | View the Tweet
Post 31-Valdosta Troopers had a great time at their Christmas Party, but make no mistake, they’ll be wearing their big hats and blue shirts if you are naughty on Georgia roads this holiday season. #NationalUglyChristmasSweaterDay #gsp #gatrooper

James Bass @TxDOTCEO | View the Tweet
Not just during the holidays, but all year round remember to #PlanWhileYouCan and help @TxDOT to #EndTheStreakTX.
Let us know if you like the signs, but please don't take a pic (unless a passenger).
#BuckleUpTexas
#EveryRiderEveryRide
#TalkTextCrash
http://Drivetexas.org
KansasDOT @DriveSafeKansas | View the Tweet
We appreciate all of the partners who are participating in the holiday impaired driving enforcement campaign across the state. If you feel different, you drive different. #DriveSober

Alaska DOT&PF @AlaskaDOTPF | View the Tweet
DOT&PF employees believe a festive sweater is the perfect way to dress warm for those holiday gatherings this weekend. #TisTheSeason #OfficeCheer
Arizona DOT @ArizonaDOT | View the Tweet
We enjoy a bad pun. We don't enjoy reckless speeding. More info:
https://azdot.gov/mobile/media/blog/posts/2018/12/20/drivers-make-safe-decisions-and-get-on-the-nice-list …

WSDOT Traffic @wsdot_traffic | View the Tweet
It's nasty out there currently & it's going to get pretty windy later this morning too. Make sure you drive with two hands on the wheel, take it slow, increase your following distance & watch for standing water … Let's all stay safe out there.
NHTSA @NHTSAgov | View the Tweet
Take care of your holiday guests! If you know they are driving after the party, have a fun holiday 'mocktail' ready and waiting for them. #BuzzedDriving is drunk driving.

Hot Buttered Spiced Cider

1/2 gallon apple cider
1/2 cup fresh lemon juice, plus 1 strip of zest
1/2 cup fresh orange juice, plus 1 strip of zest
3 cinnamon sticks
4 whole cloves
1 tablespoon unsalted butter, softened

In a large pot, combine the cider, lemon juice, orange juice, cinnamon sticks and cloves. Simmer over medium heat for 20 minutes, or allowing to boil.

Ladle the cider into mugs, leaving the zest, cinnamon sticks and cloves in the pot. Add about 1/2 teaspoon butter to each mug. Serve with candy sticks or cinnamon sticks, if desired.
AAMVA's Regional News for December 21, 2018

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4401 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 700, Arlington, VA 22203