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JANUARY

8-9 | 2020 January Board of Directors Meeting
San Diego, CA

8 | 2020 January Industry Advisory Board Meeting
San Diego, CA

8-9 | 2020 January Autonomous Vehicles Working Group
Henderson, NV

21-23 | 2020 January Third Party Agent Working Group
San Antonio, TX

29-31 | 2020 January License Plate Standard Working Group Meeting
New Orleans, LA

FEBRUARY

2020 Updated FDR E-Learning Now Available
Fraud Detection and Remediation (FDR) is our most widely-accessed voluntary program. The updated courseware package (January 2020 version) is now available to member jurisdictions! The 2020 Annual Update features a number of important enhancements and new information including:

- NEW Real ID-Compliant Licenses Content
- NEW Driver License Gender Classification Information
- NEW Social Security Card Material
- NEW I-94 Travel Document Information
- NEW NMVTIS Supplement Material
- NEW Foreign National Driving Credential Content
- UPDATED Exemplars Throughout
- UPDATED 2020 Update Only Module for refresher training
- UPDATED Searchable FDR Content Index
- UPDATED indexed, searchable, and comprehensive job aid for print or electronic use
- UPDATED Jurisdiction Fraud Contact Lists

Visit the AAMVA website and follow the FDR Training path to review program details and access the download page. Please remember that you will need to use your AAMVA User ID and Password to access the material. Individual students should not attempt to retrieve the courseware from the AAMVA website. Instead, downloads are designed so that single training contacts can access the courseware on behalf of their agencies and then deploy the training throughout their organizations. Read more here.

REGION 1 NEWS

MVA Shares Safety Tips, Resources for Senior Drivers (Maryland)
Maryland has nearly 4.5 million licensed drivers, and among them is a rapidly growing older population. The Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration is reminding older drivers that there are a variety of options to make getting behind the wheel safer for them and other road users. “Our ultimate goal is to ensure that all drivers remain safe on the road for as long as possible,” said MDOT MVA Administrator Chrissy Nizer, who also serves as Governor Hogan’s Highway Safety Representative. Read more at myeasternshoremd.com.

For Recent Weddings, REAL ID Poses No Marriage Name Confusion (New Hampshire)
When the Monitor ran a story on Dec. 15 about married women having trouble...
3-4 | 2020 February NMVTIS State Program Subcommittee Meeting
Tampa, FL

3-4 | 2020 February NMVTIS Law Enforcement Subcommittee Meeting
Tampa, FL

4-6 | 2020 February Managing Data Privacy and External Access Working Group Meeting
Tampa, FL

5-6 | 2020 February NMVTIS State Users Workshop
Tampa, FL

MARCH

Mandatory Driver's License Suspensions Eliminated as Penalty for Some Non-Moving Offenses (New Jersey)
Gov. Phil Murphy Dec. 20 signed S1080, which eliminates the use of mandatory driver's license suspensions as a penalty for certain non-moving offenses. According to a release, "Driver's licenses suspensions for reasons unrelated to moving offenses are often overly punitive and can have a disproportionate financial impact on many working-class and minority families." stated Murphy. "A stronger and fairer New Jersey includes adapting our laws to support working families and not act against them." Read more at capemaycountyherald.com.

Do I Need a Test? When Can I Get a License? Details on New NJ Driver's License Law (New Jersey)
New Jersey is almost a year away from issuing driver's licenses under a bill signed into law last week by Gov. Phil Murphy that will allow undocumented immigrants and others without paperwork to drive legally in the state. The legislation, as it reads, will take effect in January 2021. The measure creates two types of driver's licenses: a federally compliant Real ID license and a "standard" driver's license for certain residents including senior citizens, undocumented immigrants and others who may lack documentation. Read more at northjersey.com.

Uber Just Quietly Bought 600 Acres of Land to Build a New Test Track for Self-Driving Cars in Pittsburgh (Pennsylvania)
An Uber affiliate has purchased nearly 600 acres of land near Pittsburgh to test self-driving-car technology. The purchase marks the company's latest expansion of its autonomous-driving efforts, which it resumed testing on public roads in Pittsburgh in December last year after suspending the program for nine months following a fatal accident in Arizona. Read more at businessinsider.com.

Motorists Passing on REAL ID in PA (Pennsylvania)
More than 612,000 motorists have gotten Real ID driver's licenses since the state began making them available in March, said Alexis Campbell, a spokeswoman for the Department of Transportation. Thus far, many people renewing their driver's licenses in Pennsylvania have opted not to get the Real ID, Campbell said. Read more at dailyitem.com.

Local Public Safety Agencies Celebrate the Season in Style (Vermont)
Don't think public safety agencies can get into the holiday spirit? We've got news for you...It turns out, state departments of transportation and local law enforcement agencies can get into the holiday spirit, and the results are frankly spectacular. The Chester, Vermont, Police Department made the headlines this week with holiday-themed speed radar signs. Read more at efficientgov.com.

Nearly 2 Million Florida Drivers Have License Suspended for Unpaid Fines, Study Finds
Nearly 2 million out of Florida's 16.6 million drivers currently have their licenses suspended - not for unsafe driving, but due to unpaid fines and fees, according to a new study. Orange County had the highest rate in the state in 2017 - with nearly 15% of the county's driving population receiving suspension notices for failure to pay...
| 23 | UNI Advanced B (advanced) |
| FEBRUARY - CDLIS |
| 11 | CDLIS Resolving Broken and Missing Pointers (intermediate) |
| 12 | CD03 State-to-State Status Request (intermediate) |
| 13 | CD04 State-to-State History Request (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 3-Yr Calc for Serious (advanced) |
| 26 | CDLIS Disqualifications for Federal Offenses |
| 27 | CDLIS Foreign Convictions and Withdrawals (intermediate) |
| FEBRUARY - PDPS |
| 3 | PDPS Update Transactions (intermediate) |
| 4 | PDPS S2S and NDR Generated Transactions (intermediate) |
| 5 | PDPS Interactions (intermediate) |

**REGISTER ONLINE!**

**OUR WEBINARS**

**REGION 3 NEWS**

**JANUARY**

| 2 | NMVTIS Suspense Resolution for Online States (Web Service Version) – Part 1 |
| 7 | NMVTIS State Web Interface (SWI) – Understanding the Administrative Features |

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**State Troopers Release PSA About Holiday Driving Safety (Louisiana)**

Louisiana State Police are urging safe travel during this Christmas/New Year season...LSP say through preventative steps and safe choices by drivers and passengers in motor vehicles, the vast majority of holiday crashes can be prevented. Read more at klfy.com.

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**Have New Year's Resolutions? REAL ID Should Be One of Them, SC Officials Say (South Carolina)**

A new decade starts in a few days, and South Carolina officials have at least one New Year’s resolution they want added to your list. Get the state’s new driver’s license and identification card — otherwise known as the REAL ID. “Any place I go, somebody comes up and says, ‘I’m going to get around to it,’” Kevin Shwedo, director of the S.C. Department of Motor Vehicles, told state officials last month. “If you wait until next July, you may be there all day.” Read more at thestate.com.

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**Tennessee Commissioner Outlines Plan to Ease Long Lines at Driver's License Centers**

What to do about long lines at driver’s license centers drew a lot of attention from state lawmakers this week. “We know people are frustrated with the lines,” said Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security Commissioner Jeff Long. “We are frustrated with them too.” Those lines and long waits dominated questions Thursday at the Tennessee House budget hearings for Long’s department which oversees the driver’s license centers. Read more at wkmn.com.

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**DMV Urges Holiday Revelers to Be Aware of the Dangers of Impaired Walking (Virginia)**

As law enforcement officers crack down on drunk driving across the Commonwealth as part of the semi-annual “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” campaign, the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is also calling attention to another alcohol-related danger – impaired walking. Over the past three years, 36 percent of the pedestrians killed in Virginia crashes had been drinking prior to the crash. Read more at shoredailynews.com.

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**More Than 50 Hurt in Chain-Reaction Crash Involving 69 Vehicles on I-64 in Virginia**

A chain-reaction crash involving 69 vehicles closed all lanes of Interstate 64 in York County, Sunday morning...Virginia State Police spokeswoman Sgt. Michelle Anaya said dozens of people were sent to the hospital. Two had life-threatening injuries, while eleven had serious but non-life threatening injuries. State police add that the majority of people hurt only suffered minor injuries. Read more at nbc12.com.

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**Kansas Expanding Program for Avoiding Lines at DMV Offices**

Kansas is allowing some residents seeking to get or renew a driver's license to schedule appointments so that they can avoid a tedious wait in line. The Division of Vehicles in the Kansas Department of Revenue recently expanded the program to an additional nine offices in populous areas after launching a pilot program in Topeka in August. Read more at usnews.com.

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**Ohio BMV to Alert Motorists to Safety Recall Notices on**

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Vehicles
The state is lending a helping hand to Ohio motorists who may be unaware of safety recall notices to repair their vehicles. Safety recall notifications will be included with registration renewal notices mailed to Ohioans to renew their license plates, the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles announced Monday. Read more at lancastereaglegazette.com.

Deadline for Ohio Driver's License Amnesty Program Approaching
Antwane Foster, 33, said it’s been a long time since he had a valid driver’s license. Due to suspensions, and the amount of money he owed, he said it didn’t seem like a possibility. Before Friday, Foster said, he owed $4,000 in license reinstatement fees to the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV). After applying for a reduction, he only owes $800, and can get his license back after going on a payment plan. Read more at beaconjournal.com.

Driver License Facilities to Extend Hours for REAL IDs Dec. 30 (Illinois)
Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White announced that beginning December 30 some Driver Services facilities throughout Chicagoland and northern Illinois will change operating hours and add exclusive days just for REAL ID applicants, to accommodate the increased volume of customers applying for the REAL ID driver’s licenses and ID cards. Read more at chicagocrusader.com.

Illinois Could End 2019 With Under 1,000 Traffic Deaths for the First Time in Years
Traffic fatalities in Illinois are down so far this year and state transportation officials want to keep it that way even with a record number of travelers expected to hit the roads for the holidays. The Illinois Department of Transportation wants to finish 2019 with fewer than 1,000 traffic fatalities for the first time in several years. IDOT spokesman Guy Tridgell said there have been about 50 fewer deaths in 2019 compared to 2018. Read more at mdjonline.com.

DMV Urges REAL ID Before Law Changes (Wisconsin)
When enforcement of the REAL ID Act begins Oct. 1, 2020, the regular Wisconsin driver license or ID will no longer be accepted identification for domestic air travel or to enter a federal building or military base...Nearly 40 percent of all Wisconsin driver license or ID card holders are REAL ID compliant...“Our customers are encouraged to visit the DMV sooner rather than later. No one wants to miss their flight or meeting because they don’t have the proper identification,” Wisconsin Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Administrator Kristina Boardman said. Read more at hngnews.com.

Rural Alaska Community Aims to Help With REAL IDs
Leaders of the remote Alaska community of Toksook Bay want to make it easier for residents to obtain REAL ID licenses. KYUK radio reports that the community, on the coast of the Bering Sea, is a $190 plane ticket from the nearest state Division of Motor Vehicles office in Bethel. Because of the expense and inconvenience, the Toksook Bay City Council has voted to bring the DMV to residents. The city will schedule a visit from division representatives. Read more at ktva.com.

Davis Man Sentenced for Role in Bay Area Commercial License Scheme, US Attorneys Say (California)
A Davis man was sentenced Thursday for his involvement in a scheme to obtain driver licenses for students enrolled in his commercial driving school, according to
the Eastern District U.S. Attorney’s Office. Court documents and evidence presented at trial show David Sun ran a driving school named Commercial Driver Institute USA in the East Bay, where a majority of his students spoke Mandarin and Cantonese, according to a news release from U.S. Attorney McGregor W. Scott’s office. Sun, 65, would typically charge $2,500 to $6,500 per student for help in obtaining Class A or Class B commercial driver licenses. Read more at sacbee.com.

Californians Celebrate Shorter DMV Wait Times During Holidays
The Department of Motor Vehicles may be one of the last places you want to spend a holiday, but many Californians are spending parts of the holiday week celebrating shorter wait times..."I’m cheering! I was just in there cheering," Orlando Tolbert said leaving the DMV in San Francisco Tuesday morning. "I got in there 10 minutes to 11:00 (a.m.) and got out, it’s 11:15 (a.m.), I cannot believe that," Tolbert said. Read more at sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com.

DMV Reminds Californians of REAL ID Enforcement and New Laws for 2020
With 2020 just around the corner, the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is reminding Californians of the upcoming federal enforcement date for REAL ID..."We urge Californians to apply for their REAL ID at the time of their renewal or their earliest convenience -- so they are fully prepared by October 1, 2020," DMV Director Steve Gordon said...Along with the upcoming REAL ID federal enforcement, the DMV wants to inform Californians about several new state laws or changes to existing law that take effect January 1, 2020. Read more at goldrushcam.com.

New Law Seeks to Reduce Montana's License Plate Designs
Montana motorists might soon have fewer sponsored license plates to choose from to put on their vehicles. The state Legislature in 2019 approved new rules to discontinue less popular specialized plates. Right now, Montana offers 266 specialized plates. Proceeds from the sale of specialized plates go to charity. Read more at nbcmontana.com.

2019 Look Back: Polson Grandmother Takes Aim at Speeding Vehicles (Montana)
We are highlighting some of our favorite stories we've covered at KPAX and KAJ over the course of this year. This particular story grabbed national attention -- a Polson woman took matters into her own hands to stop speeding cars on her street. Read more at kpax.com.

Truck Inspections Crucial to ODOT's 'Vision Zero' (Oregon)
Truck inspections are the primary tool for preventing accidents that disrupt Oregon’s highways, hospitalize thousands and leave hundreds dead each year. The Oregon Department of Transportation raised the bar for safety in adopting a new action plan in 2016. The agency envisions a future with no deaths from traffic accidents on Oregon’s roads. Read more at mailtribune.com.

DriveSafe Online® Rolls Out Oregon DMV-Approved Mature Driver Accident Prevention Course
DriveSafe Online® (DSO), a global leader in online defensive driver safety training for new, experienced and fleet drivers, today announced the approval of its #1 Mature Driver Accident Prevention Course by the Oregon Department of Transportation (DOT) Driver and Motor Vehicle (DMV) Services Division. Read more at prweb.com.
Legislator Seeks Feedback on Digital Wyoming Driver's License Proposal

Wyoming could potentially see new digital driver's licenses as an option for people in 2020. At least one Wyoming legislator thinks it is a good idea. “How handy would it be to have your ID on your smartphone?” House District No. 1 Representative Tyler Lindholm said on Facebook Friday. “I think the idea has merit, but I wonder if they considered doing it with the registration of a vehicle also? What do you guys think” Read more at oilcity.news.

Other News

Stakeholder Comments Mostly Endorse Trading Rearview Mirrors for Camera Systems

Despite some cautionary notes, public comment on a National Highway Traffic Safety Administration advanced notice of proposed rulemaking largely favored permitting camera-based, rear-visibility systems to replace mirrors on light vehicles and heavy trucks...Some of the more than 560 commenters on the proposal wanted the camera systems to outright replace mirrors, some wanted to allow both mirrors and cameras, while others, including the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators, asked for clarification whether the ANPRM is contemplating a blanket exemption to the current regulatory standard. Read more at ttnews.com.

Explaining Level 4 and Level 5 of Self-Driving Cars in Plain English

What’s a Level 4 or Level 5 self-driving car? Many ask that very question. Indeed, it is by far one of most popular questions that I get asked about self-driving cars when I speak at conferences, and refers to the various levels of automation that constitute a self-driving car. Read more at forbes.com.

NHTSA in Talks With GM Over Fleet of Self-Driving Cars With No Steering Wheels

The U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is holding talks with General Motors on the automaker's petition to deploy a limited number of self-driving vehicles on American roads without steering wheels or other human controls, the head of the agency said on Friday. Acting NHTSA Administrator James Owens said his agency aims to make a decision soon on GM's January 2018 petition as well as a request by Softbank Corp-backed driverless delivery startup Nuro to deploy a limited number of low-speed, highly automated delivery vehicles without human occupants. Read more at autoblog.com.

Listen to the Soothing Sound Coming to London’s Electric Buses

To improve safety on its busy streets, London is set to trial an audio track on its hybrid and electric buses that will automatically play on external speakers when the vehicle is stationary or traveling at a slow speed. With electric vehicles making little noise due to the absence of a combustion engine, the audio will alert nearby pedestrians, cyclists, and the visually impaired to the bus’s presence. Read more at digitaltrends.com.

Many Taxi Companies in US Aren't Required to Fix Cabs After Safety Recalls

In many of the nation's biggest cities, there are no laws requiring taxi companies to fix cabs after safety recalls. Now, the Center for Auto Safety is calling for that to change...A review by the center found the more than 35,000 cabs licensed in nine of the 10 U.S. cities with the most taxis are not required by their regulators to get safety recalls fixed before picking up passengers. Read more at cbsnews.com.
2019: Hours-of-Service Rule, ELDs and Roads Dominated Political, Regulatory Concerns

For the trucking industry, 2019 was a year of transition, replete with regulatory victories and disappointments. Federal regulators proposed adding flexibility to the hours-of-service rule, while a two-year exemption for grandfathered electronic logging devices expired and roadside inspectors began full enforcement of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's ELD mandate. Meanwhile, the FMCSA’s proposed HOS rule revision, made public on Aug. 14, might be remembered as one of the industry’s — and the agency’s — crowning achievements of 2019. Read more at ttnews.com.

FMCSA Doubles the Random Drug Test Rate for Truck Drivers

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) will be dramatically increasing the number of random drug tests that will be administered to Commercial Drivers License (CDL) holders in 2020. In a December 26 notice, the FMCSA announced that it would increase the minimum annual rate for random drug tests for truck drivers from the current 25% to 50%, effective January 1, 2020. According to the FMCSA, the increased drug testing rate will mean that 2.1 million random controlled substances tests will need to be conducted in calendar year 2020. Read more at cdllife.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 @AAMVAConnection.

Check out recent @AAMVAConnection Twitter action.

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

MD_MVA @MD_MVA | View the Tweet

Happy #UglySweaterDay from team MDOT MVA! #MDOTScenes
Today is #CrosswordPuzzleDay, which means it's time to test your knowledge of #PennDOT and transportation. Let us know how you do! We'll be posting the answers before noon on Monday, so stay tuned.

- Across
  1. One means of public transportation
  2. Sliding uncontrollably in a vehicle, usually caused by speeding on wet roads
  3. Customer service number for PennDOT
  4. The state capital of Pennsylvania
  5. A two-wheeled motor vehicle
  6. Driving behind another vehicle without leaving sufficient distance
  7. Another name for a car crash
  8. You must allow ___ feet between your vehicle and a bicycle to pass safely
  9. Those with a junior driver's license can't drive between ___ p.m. and five a.m.
  10. Starting October 1, 2020, Pennsylvanians will need a ______ to board a domestic commercial flight.
  11. Life-saving designation on your driver's license
  12. Drive ____ or get pulled over

- Down
  1. Occurs on clear roadways when a thin layer of ice forms due to dropping temperatures
  2. Circular intersection where traffic moves counter-clockwise
  3. A two-wheeled motor vehicle
  4. Throwing trash on the side of the road
  5. Click it or ____
  6. Pennsylvania Department of Transportation abbreviation
  7. VermontDMV @VTDMV
Happy Holidays from your friends in the DMV Finance & Logistics Division!

SCDMV @SC_DMV | View the Tweet

The #SCDMV Branch Managers meeting was held at Headquarters on Tuesday, December 10th. Branch Managers from each of our 5 regions were recognized for excellence in their offices.

TxDMV @TxDMV | View the Tweet

Helpful information about driver licensing from the Texas Department of Public Safety:

You’ve got one job when you’re in the driver’s seat -- #JustDrive!
Put the #phonedown, #avoiddistractions and #ArriveAlive at your holiday destination.

IllinoisStatePolice @ILStatePolice | View the Tweet

ISP trooper's stark message urges drivers to move over - WREX
Sgt. Tracy Lillard with the Illinois State Police delivers a stark and emotional message to drivers asking them to move over.

Iowa State Patrol @iowastatepatrol | View the Tweet

Over the river & through the woods...it doesn't matter where u are going-104 in a 55 mph zone is dangerous!

Besides being put on the naughty list, this Christmas “present” is going to cost the driver a fine & the loss of his driving privileges. Thankfully, no one was injured.
Iowa DOT @iowadot | View the Tweet

Happy Holidays from the Iowa DOT! With more than 100 locations throughout Iowa, it's likely you know at least one of our awesome employees. During the holidays, many of our folks partner with local groups to give back.

SDPublicSafety @SDPublicSafety | View the Tweet

Still unofficial, but it appears that it was a fatality FREE Christmas in SD -- the first since 2015. With less than one week left in 2019, we still are trending to have fewer fatalities than in 2018. Slow down, watch for others and wear a seat belt! #DriveSafeSD #keepSDsafe
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