Mississippi to Join State-to-State Verification Service (S2S)
Mississippi will begin using the State-to-State Verification Service (S2S) on Monday, April 8th. Tasks related to on-boarding Mississippi will be conducted during the weekend of April 6th. 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, Apr 7th).

Following Mississippi, several states will be joining the S2S program throughout 2019. Please [click here](#) for a full timeline and more information.

AAMVA’s Facial Recognition Working Group Seeks Your Input
The Facial Recognition Working Group is charged with reviewing and updating the Facial Recognition Program Best Practices Guide published by AAMVA in 2015. The working group will update the content to reflect the most current best practice methods that are recommend to capture, review, and share facial images. Responses will provide information to help working group members understand the current facial recognition practices. The working group is expected to publish the updated best practices in the summer of 2019. Please take a few minutes to provide your input before the [March 4, 2019](#) deadline. [Click here](#) to access the jurisdiction survey.

NOTICE: Unauthorized Persons Offering Rooms for AAMVA Events
If you are receiving phone calls or emails from any organization or person indicating they have a block of rooms for an AAMVA meeting hotel at the same or lower rate, note that they are not affiliated with AAMVA. Please continue to contact the hotel directly to book rooms. If you need additional information, contact Dianne Graham, 571.265.5573 or Samara Fetner, 703.908.2959.

NYC Pushes to Get Driver’s Licenses for Undocumented Immigrants (New York)
An estimated 570,000 undocumented immigrants are currently living in New York State — the majority in New York City — may soon be eligible for driver’s licenses. Rallying on the steps of City Hall, elected leaders and advocates are pushing for all immigrants regardless of legal status to be granted the privilege. ‘The one thing we are hearing from our immigrant communities from Brentwood to Buffalo is drivers
PennDOT Reminder: Customers Can Join 140,000 Who Pre-Verified for REAL ID (Pennsylvania)
The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) is reminding customers that they can join more than 140,000 Pennsylvanians who have pre-verified for REAL ID online and at driver license centers statewide. Customers who bring in the required REAL ID documentation to any PennDOT Driver License Center may apply for REAL ID online once REAL IDs are available in March and receive their REAL ID driver's license or photo ID card in the mail. Because PennDOT may already have electronic documents on file for approximately 35 percent of its total customers, individuals who received their first PA driver's license or ID card after September 2003, these customers have had the option to apply for REAL ID pre-verification online since March of 2018. Read the article at penndot.gov.

New Driver's License Redesign Coming in July (Vermont)
What's in your wallet? Chances are good it'll change in the next year or two. The Department of Motor Vehicles is preparing to roll out a major redesign of all state driver's licenses and ID cards, starting July 1. It's the first change in 15 years. The updated licenses are packed with 23 separate security features, some which are not visible. DMV Commissioner Wanda Minoli pointed to the cardholder's signature, for example. 'It's actually raised. And there are microprints embedded in the license,' she said. Read the article at mynbc5.com.

Florida Highway Patrol and DHSMV Remind Motorists to 'Stay at the Scene'
February is Hit and Run Awareness Month, and the Florida Highway Patrol and the DHSMV want to remind all motorists to 'Stay at the Scene.' In a statement released Friday, Executive Director with the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) Terry L. Rhodes said that 'If you are involved in a crash, Stay at the Scene. Not only is it the law, but doing so could save a life. Leaving the scene of the crash will ensure you receive more serious penalties, no matter the severity of the crash. Hit and run crashes have an enormous impact to Florida's communities and our department is dedicated to solving these cases. I implore members of the public to report any information on hit and run crashes anonymously to Crime Stoppers.' Read the article at wcjb.com.

South Carolina Officials, MADD Push Stricter DUI Legislation
South Carolina officials have joined members of Mothers Against Drunk Driving in support of stricter DUI legislation. Gov. Henry McMaster, law enforcement and some members of the General Assembly joined that group Tuesday on the Statehouse grounds in support of an ignition interlock measure to require all first-time DUI offenders with a blood alcohol content level of .08 or greater to install the device in their vehicles. Current law requires repeat offenders and first-time offenders who blow a .15, twice the legal limit, or higher to install the system. Read the article at sacbee.com.

TxDOT Work Zone Injury Draws Attention to Safety, Driver Awareness (Texas)
There are about a dozen work zones within the city limits of Amarillo. In 2017, there were 500 work zone crashes in the Texas Department of Transportation Amarillo district, which spans 17 counties. Of those 500, seven were fatalities and 21 resulted
Safe to Use Hands-Free Devices in the Car? Yes, According to Research (Virginia)

New research from the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTTI) suggests that drivers who use hands-free electronic devices, as opposed to handheld ones, are less likely to get into a crash. With hands-free technology, drivers can make calls and perform a variety of other tasks while still keeping their hands on the wheel and eyes on the road. 'Any activity that places either visual or manual demands on the driver — texting, browsing or dialing a hand-held phone, for instance — substantially increases crash risk. However, our recent study has found that the primarily cognitive secondary task of talking on a hands-free device does not appear to have any detrimental effects,' said Tom Dingus, director of VTTI and the principal investigator of the study. Read the article at vtnews.vt.edu.

Local Effort to Fight Drunken Driving Could Set National ‘Smart Practices’ Standard (Virginia)

Arlington County, Virginia, is trying to fight drunken driving, and its method may prove to be a model for the nation. Arlington’s restaurant initiative was launched about two years ago. As part of the initiative, officers are assigned to work with management and staff of bars and restaurants to help create safe standards of practice. 'In our restaurant initiative, we’re currently working with the U.S. Department of Justice to go with the COPS (Community Oriented Policing Services) office to make this a best practice throughout the country,’ said Arlington County Police Chief M. Jay Farr. 'We’re going to help set what they like to refer to as "smart practices."' Bar and restaurant staff receive training in responsible alcohol service, de-escalation techniques, identification of fake IDs, intervention in sexual assault and harassment, active shooter scenarios and more. Read the article at wtop.com.

Mobile Driver's License Proposal Gets Unanimous Approval; Moves Forward to Senate (Indiana)

The Senate Appropriations Committee announced that they ‘unanimously’ approved a proposal that would allow Indiana drivers to keep their licenses on their mobile phones, on Thursday. Sen. Eddie Melton, D-Gary, introduced the bill on Wednesday, January 16, that sought to permit Hoosiers the option of carrying their plastic driver’s license, or having it on their phone through an app. Read the article at theindychannel.com.

Handling a Phone While Driving Could Become Illegal in Michigan

Starting Friday, handling a phone while driving will be made illegal in Battle Creek and Michigan might be following suit. Governor Gretchen Whitmer brought up the idea of making it illegal in Michigan to use a phone while behind the wheel during her State of the State Address earlier this week. A bill to do just that was introduced in the State House by Rep. Mari Manoogian, D-Birmingham on Wednesday. Michigan currently has a distracted driving law making it illegal to text and drive. Read the article at wilx.com.

'Lasting Impact' Video Now Available for Showings (Minnesota)

Minnesota teen drivers continue to be overrepresented in traffic crashes due to
driver inexperience, distraction, speeding and risk-taking. While progress has been made with laws prohibiting cell phone use for teen drivers and the graduated driver’s license law, continued education is needed to reduce teen driving deaths. To educate young drivers on the importance of staying safe behind the wheel, the Minnesota State Patrol created Lasting Impact, a video about a teen driver who made a fatal mistake. In December 2015, four friends decided to go for a joyride on a steep gravel road near Pine Island. All three passengers were unbuckled when the driver lost control of her vehicle at a high rate of speed. Eighteen-year-old Logan Maas, a Triton High School senior, was killed when he was ejected from the vehicle. Read the article at dps.mn.gov.

A Man with an Unusual Fixation on the Department of Motor Vehicles Got to Ride in a Police Car (Missouri)
A Missouri DMV fan has been given a licence to chill. The Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office arrested a 34-year-old man for stalking employees at the Department of Motor Vehicles. Cops say Timothy Howe would frequently visit the office asking for various registration forms including vehicle registration paperwork. ‘Over a period of a few months, the victims said Howe would buy them pizzas anonymously and contacting (sic) them through social media under a false name,’ according to the Lincoln County Sheriff’s Facebook page. Read the article at nydailynews.com.

International Trucker Safety Training Continues Making Arizona Roads Safer
An innovative truck safety training program is continuing to make Arizona roads safer 18 months after Arizona Department of Transportation enforcement officers began taking their important messages to Mexican truck drivers south of the border. More than 11,000 times in the past 18 months, Mexican truck drivers who have completed ADOT’s rigorous, two-day International Border Inspection Qualification have used the agency’s commercial ports of entry in Nogales, San Luis and Douglas. These qualified drivers have been stopped for significant safety violations just 31 times, or once in every 355 crossings. Read the article at content.govdelivery.com.

ADOT Detectives Protect Arizonans’ Identities, Investigate Vehicle Fraud (Arizona)
Identity theft involving Arizona driver licenses and ID cards. Used vehicle deals in which buyers can’t get titles transferred to their names. Unlicensed dealers flipping salvaged vehicles to unsuspecting buyers in a practice known as curbstoning. As the state agency responsible for driver licenses and IDs, vehicle titles and more, the Arizona Department of Transportation is responsible for investigating these and other crimes through an Office of Inspector General staffed by detectives with extensive law enforcement experience. These detectives, all of them Arizona POST-certified peace officers, will investigate fraud involving vehicle dealers, unlicensed vehicle dealers, vehicle titles, and driver licenses and state ID cards. Read the article at azdot.gov.

CHP Hosts April 3 Driving Class for Seniors (California)
Every year, drivers 65 years of age and older look to the California Highway Patrol for assistance in maintaining or improving their ability to drive safely. In response, the CHP provides the ‘Age Well, Drive Smart’ program to equip senior drivers with the necessary tools to remain safe and confident on the road. The class offers an excellent opportunity for senior drivers to refresh their knowledge of California driving laws, evaluate their driving abilities, and improve their driving skills. The Age Well, Drive Smart program covers various topics ranging from California driving laws, safe driving practices, and the effects of aging on a person’s ability to drive...
Grand Opening for Self-Serve Car Registration Kiosk Planned (Hawaii)
A self-serve kiosk for car registrations, which will be available 5 a.m. to 2 a.m. daily, will be opening Monday at the Maui Lani Safeway. This will be the state’s first kiosk of its kind, which will allow residents to use a touchscreen to process and print vehicle registration cards and emblems, the county Department of Finance said Friday. The SST machine accepts payments by credit or debit card. Read the article at mauinews.com.

ITD Launches Comprehensive Campaign to Raise Awareness About Star Card-Idaho’s Real ID (Idaho)
A year after Idaho began issuing the Star Card, Idaho’s Real ID, five percent of Idahoans have applied for the card. Without it on a driver’s license, citizens won’t be able to board a plane or enter a federal facility. Beginning Oct. 1, 2020, the Department of Homeland Security will require a Star Card, or other approved credential such as a passport, to get through security at airports, courthouses, and military bases...To raise awareness of the deadline, the DMV is launching a new multi-faceted campaign consisting of videos, advertising in Idaho airports, and on social media and travel sites. The campaign message focuses on the Star Card being your ‘license to fly’ and getting it now so ‘you don’t get left behind.’ Read the article at itd.idaho.gov.

Denied Licence Plate, Saskatchewan Man Emblazons 'Offensive' Last Name on Tailgate
When it comes to celebrating his family name, Dave Assman refuses to take no for an answer. After Saskatchewan Government Insurance (SGI) denied his latest request for an 'ASSMAN' vanity licence plate, the Melville man had an oversized decal designed to replicate the plate in question and then placed the decal on the tailgate of his white Dodge Ram pickup truck. Read the article at edmontonjournal.com.

Department of Homeland Security Taps Travel Agents as Real ID Deadline Nears
Uncle Sam needs your help – and your travelers might, too, DHS said. It’s time to begin asking your customers if they have Real ID-compliant identification, and adding a reminder to all bookings for travel beginning October 2020...’The big issue we have is, do people know this dramatic change is coming, and will it affect all airports simultaneously? The last thing we want is for consumers to show up at the airport and not be allowed to board their flights,’ said Steve Yonkers, director of identity and credentialing for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, in a conference call sponsored by the USTOA. ’So, we are trying to work with state and federal government agencies and members of the travel industry' to get the word out. Read the article at travelmarketreport.com.

Will Autonomous Vehicles Make Us Better People?
Research finds that programming driverless cars ahead of time inspires a person to move away from egocentric decision-making. There has been much speculation about how the coming wave of self-driving cars will change our lives. New research offers a welcome possibility: This new technology may prompt us to shift our thinking away from our own desires, and more toward the common good. Read the article at psmag.com.
Traffic Deaths in U.S. Exceed 40,000 for Third Straight Year
Traffic fatalities on U.S. roads reached an estimated 40,000 in 2018, the third year in a row in which at least that many people died in vehicle crashes, according to new figures from the National Safety Council. The 2018 total represents a decline of just 231 deaths -- roughly 1 percent -- from road deaths in 2017 but a 14 percent increase from just four years ago, according to the safety advocacy group. Read the article at bloomberg.com.

Apple's Self-Driving Vehicles Disengage for Safety More Frequently by Design
The California Department of Motor Vehicles has released a letter it received from Apple concerning the 'Project Titan' self-driving vehicle project's disengagement rates, with the letter advising how Apple is collecting data on incidents where a driver takes over for the automated driving system, and why the number is so high. Read the article at appleinsider.com.

TWITTER NEWS

@AAMVAConection 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 @AAMVAConection.

Check out recent @AAMVAConection Twitter action.

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

MD_MVA @MD_MVA | View the Tweet
#ThrowbackThursday to #WearRedDay! Thanks again to all our employees across the state for showing your support!

Massachusetts RMV @MassRMV | View the Tweet
Today is Nat'l Organ Donation Day. One donor can save up to eight lives. The same donor can also save or improve the lives of up to 50 people! Enroll as an #organ donor here: http://ow.ly/EILY30nF87h
Halton Police @HaltonPolice | View the Tweet
This is why we ask drivers to slow their roll in these conditions.
Incredibly, the Ashwaubenon Public Safety officer was uninjured after a semi slid through an intersection yesterday and slammed into his patrol truck. ^jh

NCDOT @NCDOT | View the Tweet
Reba, a vehicle services supervisor, and Jeff, a driver license examiner, are a #NCDMV husband-wife team of more than 16 yrs. They enjoy the friendly competition between driver and vehicle services. From our #NCDMVhearts to yours, Happy Valentine’s Day!
ICBC @icbc | View the Tweet
This #ValentinesDay, don't send mixed signals! If you need to change lanes, use your turn signal well in advance to let other road users know your intention. #KnowYourPartBC

NMSP @NMStatePolice | View the Tweet
Your hearts 💖 might be racing this #ValentineDay but don’t let your cars. Watch your speed and stay safe on the roads. 🚒

Oregon State Police @ORStatePolice | View the Tweet
#ValentinesDay
Roses are red, violets are blue

Don’t drive impaired because we’ll find you

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