AAMVA Awards Program Submission Deadline Looms

Don't miss this opportunity to be recognized for the great work your jurisdiction does every day by improving day-to-day business, reaching out to the community, and saving lives. Learn more about specific award categories by visiting the AAMVA Awards website. Don't forget: the deadline for submissions is February 1st (nominations for the Martha Irwin Award for Lifetime Achievement in Highway Safety are due on April 15th)! Download the 2017 Awards Submission and Nomination Packet today!

Members Needed for NMVTIS Business Rules Working Group

The NMVTIS Business Rules Working Group is seeking applications for one applicant with experience of the NMVTIS business process and two applicants with NMVTIS information technology experience. Working group members are expected to attend in-person and virtual meetings. Please complete the application and submit to committees@aamva.org no later than close of business on February 1, 2017. Learn more about the Working Group on AAMVA's Web site. If you have any questions regarding the working group vacancies, please refer to the Working Group Opportunities tab on the Committees and Working Groups page of AAMVA's Webs site, or contact Casey Garber at CGarber@aamva.org.

Gov. Hogan Unveils 'Justice for Victims' Initiative (Maryland)

Gov. Larry Hogan threw his support behind a bipartisan push to help state's attorneys put repeat sex offenders and drunk drivers away for longer periods. Read the full story at WBALTV.com.

MVC Urges Certain Honda and Acura Owners to Check SaferCar.gov for Potentially Life-Saving Safety Recall Information (New Jersey)

The New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) is strongly urging owners of certain 2001 to 2003 Honda and Acura models to check SaferCar.gov immediately for important safety recall information related to Takata airbags. The vehicles are part of a larger, 70 million vehicle recall effort related to faulty airbags. Read the MVC press release.

Cuomo Proposes Vehicle Cellphone Ban Even When Car isn’t Moving (New York)
Gov. Andrew Cuomo is seeking to, in his words, close a loophole that allows motorists to use their cellphones when their vehicle is on the roadway but not in motion. Read the full story at TimesUnion.com.

**Transportation Department Boasts Record Low Traffic Fatalities Amid Bump in Pedestrian, Cyclist Deaths for 2016 (New York)**

The Department of Transportation on Wednesday touted a record low for overall traffic deaths last year, amid an uptick in pedestrian and cyclist fatalities. Read the full story at NYDailyNews.com.

**Persistent Toll Scofflaws Facing Stiffer Penalties (New York)**

If you still think paying tolls is what other people do, the state Department of Motor Vehicles is prepared to change your mind - and suspend your registration in the process. Read the full story at RecordOnline.com.

**South Carolina Gets Another Reprieve in Implementing Federal REAL ID**

The Department of Homeland Security granted South Carolina another a 4 1/2 month extension for making changes to the state driver's license required by the federal REAL ID Act of 2005. Read the full story at TheState.com.

**New Technology Aims to Make DMV Experience a Positive One (Tennessee)**

The DMV is notorious for taking a long time and causing headaches, but government leaders hope to change that reputation with the newest location on Summer Avenue. Read the full story at WREG.com.

**Thousands of Virginia Vehicle Owners at Risk from Faulty Airbags**

Thousands of Virginians have a vehicle under recall for a defective airbag that has caused 11 U.S. deaths and many serious injuries. Nearly 70 million Takata brand airbag inflators in about 42 million vehicles are or will be under recall in the United States by 2019. Read the DMV press release.

**Minnesota House Committee Approves Real ID Act Legislation**

A Minnesota House Committee on Tuesday approved the so-called Real ID Act bill. The Civil Law and Data Practices Policy Committee approved the legislation on a 7-6 party line vote. Read the full story at KSTP.com.

**North Dakota DOT Self Service Terminals for Motor Vehicle Tab Renewals Installed in Bismarck**

The North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) has implemented a new tool for residents to renew their motor vehicle tabs. As part of a year-long pilot...
**NMVTIS State Web Interface – How to Correct Title and Brand Data on the Central Site**

**Understanding the MEC Verification Inquiry (NR01) National Registry System Specification**

**NMVTIS State Web Interface – Instant Title Verification Using the VIN Search Feature**

**Regional News - January 13, 2017**

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**NMVTIS State Web Interface – Instant Title Verification Using the VIN Search Feature**

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**Wisconsin DOT Joins Waze Connected Citizens Program**

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) announced today a data-sharing partnership with Waze (http://www.waze.com), the free, real-time crowdsourced traffic and navigation app powered by the world’s largest community of drivers. [Read the DOT press release](https://www.magnetmail.net/design/preview.cfm?message_id=13862772).

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**Check out AAMVA's Open RFPs page for potential opportunities.**

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**OUR SURVEYS**

Please respond to these surveys from Connecticut, Ontario, Kansas, North Carolina, Quebec, Maryland and AAMVA.

- **Wait times for Driver & Vehicle Transactions** (Ends 01/23/2017)
  - Responses received from FL, IA, ID, IL, ME, MI, MN, MO, M, NY, SC, VT, WA, WI.

- **Vision Standards** (Ends 01/23/2017)
  - Responses received from LA, MI, NH, SC, VA.

- **State NMVTIS Junk Salvage Reporting Practices** (Ends 01/24/2017)
  - Responses received from SD, VT.

- **Translator for DL and Vehicle Offices** (Ends 01/31/2017)
  - Responses received from IL, KS, LA, MI, C, D, VA, VT, WY.

- **Information on Vehicle Owner's Registration** (Ends 02/06/2017)
  - Responses received from SD, VT.

- **Facial Recognition Practices and Business Models** (Ends 01/19/2017)
  - Responses received from BC, FL, IN, LA, ME, MI, MN, MO, NH, NJ, NY, OR, VA, VT, WA, WI.

- **Classification for Expedition or Adventure Vehicle** (Ends 01/30/2017)
  - Responses received

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**need a Driver License? More Authorized Third Party Offices Now Do That (Arizona)**

One of the most common Arizona Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Division transactions just got a bit easier with the addition of more Authorized Third Party providers permitted to offer driver license services including road testing, written testing and photos. [Read the ADOT press release](https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/AZDOT/bulletins/17fc30a).

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**New Bill Would Require California Drivers Under 21 to Hold Provisional Licenses**

Assembly Bill 63, introduced by California Assemblyman Jim Frazier (D-Oakley), seeks to up the age new drivers must hold a provisional driver’s license from 18 to 21, in the hopes of reducing teen driving accidents. [Read the full story at SCPR.org](https://www.magnetmail.net/design/preview.cfm?message_id=13862772).

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**Gov. Brown Plans to Stop Suspending Licenses to Collect Traffic Debt (California)**

Gov. Jerry Brown is proposing to eliminate the suspension of driver’s licenses for Californians who fail to pay traffic tickets and related court fees, according to the $179.5 billion budget plan released Tuesday. [Read the full story at KQED.org](https://www.magnetmail.net/design/preview.cfm?message_id=13862772).

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**Appeals Court Rules in Favor of California Christian Arrested for Reading Bible Aloud Outside DMV**

A federal appeals court has ruled in favor of a Christian who was arrested six years ago for reading the Bible aloud outside of a California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) office. [Read the full story at ChristianNews.net](https://www.magnetmail.net/design/preview.cfm?message_id=13862772).

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**Montana Delegation Seeks Repeal Of REAL ID**

Montana's congressional delegation is seeking to overturn federal mandates for driver's licenses. Senators Steve Daines and Jon Tester and Representative Ryan Zinke announced on Thursday they’ve introduced legislation that would repeal the Real ID Act of 2005. [Read the full story at MTPR.org](https://www.magnetmail.net/design/preview.cfm?message_id=13862772).

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**Volkswagen Execs Indicted, Accused of Lying to U.S., California Officials in Diesel Pollution Scandal**

Six Volkswagen executives were charged Wednesday with approving the carmaker’s plan to cheat U.S. air-pollution laws – and spending more than a year stonewalling investigators from the California Air Resources Board and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. [Read the full story at SacBee.com](https://www.magnetmail.net/design/preview.cfm?message_id=13862772).

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**Safety Groups Want Behind-the-Wheel Training Rule for New Truckers**

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Highway safety advocates and independent truckers are frustrated that the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration doesn’t plan to require a minimum number of hours of real-world driving for new truck drivers. Read the full story at Trucks.com.

**Interactive Digital License Plates Get Approval in Four U.S. States**

Say goodbye to traditional license plates and say hello to interactive digital displays for your car! San Francisco-based start-up Reviver has introduced what it claims is the first-ever digital license plates at this week’s North American International Auto Show (NAIAS) in Detroit. Read the full story at Electronics360.GlobalSpec.com.

**More States Charging Added Fees For Plug-In Cars**

Ten states — soon to be 11 — assess added annual registration fees to owners of plug-in cars, like the new Chevrolet Bolt pictured here, presumably to help recover lost gasoline-tax revenues. Read the full story at Forbes.com.

**Baidu and BAIC Motor Team up for Level 3 Autonomous Vehicles**

Chinese internet giant Baidu and state-owned passenger vehicle manufacturer BAIC Motor Corp have formed a strategic partnership that will see the companies produce and promote autonomous vehicle technology in China. Read the full story at ZDnet.com.

**USDOT Announces New Federal Committee on Automation**

The U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) announced today that it is establishing a new advisory committee focused on automation across a number of modes. The committee, which includes leading professionals and experts in their field, will hold its first meeting on January 16th, 2017 to immediately begin work on some of the most pressing and relevant matters facing transportation today, including the development and deployment of automated vehicles, and determining the needs of the Department as it continues with its relevant research, policy, and regulations. View the press release.

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**DID YOU KNOW?**

On Twitter

@AAMVACConnection 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 @AAMVACConnection.

Check out recent @AAMVACConnection Twitter action.

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

MDTransportationDept @MDOTNews | View the Tweet

MDTransportationDept Retweeted MD MVA's HSO @tzd_maryland reminds you to put stupid stuff aside. Don't drink & drive. https://twitter.com/tzd_maryl ... #MDOTNews

Utah DOT @UtahDOT | View the Tweet
VIDEO: Snow plow driver seriously injured after rolling down embankment; UDOT reminds drivers #DontCrowdThePlow.

NCSL @NCSLorg | View the Tweet

17 states have considered legislation to address state hwy patrol funding in the past 10 yrs http://ow.ly/wlvn307WKmj

CVSA @CVSA | View the Tweet
OOIDA petition to Court of Appeals for rehearing on ELD lawsuit denied; OOIDA prepares to appeal to US Supreme Court https://www.ooida.com/Med…

DelawareDMV @DelawareDMV | View the Tweet

The winter driving season has arrived. Take caution this weekend as the wintry mix precipitation could lead to icy road conditions. #stormDE

Joan Lowy @AP_Joan_Lowy | View the Tweet
Takata agrees to guilty plea, will pay $1B for hiding defect (from @AP)

York Regional Police @YRP | View the Tweet

Not surprisingly, cops receive #MeanTweets too. Especially when you have over 100K followers. Thought we'd share a few sent to @YRP