2018 AAMVA Workshop & Law Institute Begins Monday

The 2018 AAMVA Workshop and Law Institute gets underway next week (March 13-14) in Denver, Colorado. Join us for this unique event that provides AAMVA members with an intimate and collaborative environment to network and learn from fellow motor vehicle and law enforcement colleagues across North America. The two-day schedule is packed with sessions covering hot topics in the motor vehicle and law enforcement community including: autonomous vehicles, cognitive impairment, customer service, cyber security, mobile DL, Real ID, and much more. Learn more and register today at the 2018 AAMVA Workshop and Law Institute website.

2018 Region 1 Conference – Registration Open!

Registration is now open for the 2018 Region 1 Conference, May 14-17, in Wilmington, Delaware. This unique opportunity provides AAMVA members with an intimate and collaborative environment to discuss relevant driver license, motor vehicle and law enforcement issues. As with every AAMVA conference, the ability to network is one of the most beneficial experiences, and this year's Region 1 Conference provides several networking opportunities as well as interactive learning opportunities. Jurisdiction attendees will learn about the successes and challenges of others, share ideas, build relationships, and discover the many products and services provided by our industry partners that can assist in your mission. Industry attendees will have the opportunity to meet with key players in the driver license, motor vehicle and law enforcement arenas. Visit the 2018 Region 1 Conference Website for more information and to register online today!

AAMVA IDEC 2017 Outstanding Examiner of the Year Award

The AAMVA International Driver Examiner Certification (IDEC) Executive Board and Driver Committee are pleased to announce Ms. Chasity Perry of Kentucky as the recipient of the AAMVA IDEC 2017 Outstanding Examiner of the Year. The award is based upon the Examiner of the Year letters that were submitted to AAMVA by IDEC participating jurisdictions on behalf of their nominees. Each year the IDEC Board recognizes one examiner that has gone above and beyond his or her duties as a driver examiner. This year's recipient was chosen for her integrity and unwavering commitment to her job, coworkers and customers. Her generosity, commitment and professionalism and courtesy to everyone around her and her take-charge attitude and leadership has lead to Ms. Perry being chosen as AAMVA's 2017 IDEC Outstanding Examiner of the Year. Please join AAMVA in congratulating Ms. Perry on her award! For more on the IDEC program, visit http://www.aamva.org/IDEC/.

Interested in having your logo appear here? Become a Regional News sponsor by contacting Rob Stershic, 703.908.2825.
Department Of Motor Vehicles Errs In Calculating Sales Tax On Hundreds Of Luxury Cars (Connecticut)
The state Department of Motor Vehicles will have to refund more than $100,000 to owners of luxury cars across the state because of a computer error that went undetected for more than a year. Hundreds of car owners will receive refunds, others will be billed for underpaying. Read the article at courant.com.

New Hampshire DMV Announces Implementation of New Driver Licensing and Financial Responsibility System
The New Hampshire Department of Safety, Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV), announces its successful implementation of a new driver licensing and financial responsibility system, referred to as VISION. NH DMV partnered with Tech Mahindra to build VISION based on Microsoft’s Dynamics Customer Relationship Management (CRM) platform supported by Tech Mahindra’s Moves framework. VISION replaced an old mainframe system originally implemented in the 1980s. Read the full announcement from New Hampshire.

New York Senator Pushing Legislation Preventing DMV From Selling Driver Data
New legislation sponsored by Sen. Chris Jacobs centers on the Department of Motor Vehicles and its sales of customer information. According to Jacobs, the law requires that the DMV allows customers to opt out of those sales, but the option is not available on the forms. Read the article at spectrumlocalnews.com.

Want a Real ID? Pennsylvania DOT Offering It To Some for $30 Extra
PennDOT began Thursday to offer select residents a chance to begin the verification process online for federally mandated Real ID. Read the article at readingeagle.com.

Pennsylvania Can Be Held Liable for Injuries Caused by Guardrail in Crash
The Pennsylvania Supreme Court has ruled that the state’s department of transportation (PennDOT) can be held liable for injuries caused by an allegedly dangerous guardrail on a Pennsylvania highway. Read the article at insurancejournal.com.

What Are the Requirements for Real IDs? (Arkansas)
So far, 85,000 Arkansans have acquired real IDs, and while they’re still voluntary some said it’s been a challenge trying to get one. Read the article at thv11.com.

Georgia Driver Services Prepares for Surge of License Reinstatements
Income tax season brings an uptick of customers visiting the Department of Driver Services (DDS) to reinstate their suspended driving privileges. DDS Commissioner Spencer R. Moore reminds customers of a way to save valuable time – the Agency’s Online License Reinstatement Services available at www.dds.georgia.gov. Read the press release.

House Votes to Impose Fees For Some Handicap Placards (Kentucky)
It’s been a problem since 2009, when Kentucky stopped charging a fee for disabled parking placards. In 2008, the state had issued about 32,000 placards. One year later, after abolishing the fee, more than 209,000 placards were issued. And now, the number has risen to nearly 300,000. ... Tuesday, Kentucky’s House of Representatives voted 85-10 to bring back the fees for disabled placards. Read the article at sacbee.com.

House Panel Puts Off Bill To Repeal Law On Court Fines, Driver’s Licenses (Virginia)
A House Appropriations subcommittee voted Friday to carry over legislation that would have repealed a current state law that suspends the Virginia driver’s license of anyone who doesn’t promptly pay court fines or costs unrelated to driving offenses. Read the article at roanoke.com.

**New Social Media Campaign to Raise Awareness of Real ID (Kansas)**
The state of Kansas has launched a marketing campaign that uses social medial to spread the word about Real ID cards in advance of the October 2020 federal implementation date. The social media campaign is a project of the Kansas Department of Revenue. Read the article at cjonline.com.

**Drivers Will Have to Jump Through Hoops to Get Licenses Back After Fees Eliminated Oct. 1 (Michigan)**
Drivers will have to jump through numerous hoops before they can get back licenses suspended because of unpaid driver responsibility fees. The fees will be eliminated and the debt forgiven on Oct. 1 for nearly 350,000 people who owe $637 million. Drivers who had their licenses suspended because of those unpaid fees — about 300,000 of the nearly 350,000 people, according to the secretary of state — will be able to get their licenses reinstated after Oct. 1. A $125 fee will even be waived if the driver gets the license reinstated by Dec. 31. Read the article at freep.com.

**Central Minnesotans See Good, Bad With State’s New Licensing System**
Joe Bengtson bought a 2015 Ford Super Duty pickup truck in January last year. He’s ready to trade it in, but he can’t. The Avon resident is still waiting on the title for his truck while he winters in Arizona. ... His is among the thousands of delayed titles in Minnesota’s new licensing and registration system, referred to as MNLARS. Read the article at sctimes.com.

**Minnesota Speeds Up Planning for Self-Driving Cars**
Self-driving cars will eventually hit the pavement in Minnesota, and state officials want our roads and laws to be ready. Gov. Mark Dayton formed a group Wednesday to delve into the tricky policy and infrastructure questions that will accompany the arrival of autonomous vehicles. Read the article at startribune.com.

**Wisconsin Elections Officials Looking to Lower Number of Voters Left Off Voting Lists**
State elections officials are hoping a review of voting lists will avoid a repeat of the Feb. 20 primary, during which some voters showed up at the polls to find their names had been purged from poll books. ... Several of those were identified under the Electronic Registration information Center — a multi-state effort to identify voters who may have moved or died — because of state Department of Motor Vehicles records. Read the article at host.madison.com.

**The Self-Driving Car War Between Arizona and California Is Heating Up**
Arizona governor Doug Ducey’s ... move to codify his state’s permissive policies to autonomous vehicle testing comes a few days after California announced that it would permit fully driverless cars to operate on its roads starting in April. Previously, a safety driver was required to be behind the wheel during autonomous testing. There is an intense competition between both states for self-driving car companies. Read the article at theverge.com.

**Government, ICBC and Police Introduce New Measures to Combat Distracted Driving This Month (British Columbia)**
Tougher penalties for distracted drivers take effect this month, alongside the piloting
of new technologies, in support of B.C.’s latest enforcement and awareness campaign against this high-risk driving behaviour. Enhanced police enforcement on distracted driving will also take place across B.C., including a province-wide blitz today. Read the press release.

California’s Most Popular License Plates
Californians love to show off their personalities while promoting a cause, and the proof is on their cars. SFGATE pulled 2017 data from the Department of Motor Vehicles to see which special-design license plates were the most requested in California last year. The results may surprise, as there’s an enormous gap exists between the top choice and the rest of the field. Read the article at sfgate.com.

Court of Appeal Reinstates Action to Declare DMV Hearings Unlawful (California)
The Court of Appeal for this district on Friday reinstated a taxpayers’ action against the California Department of Motor Vehicles and its director which alleges that the agency unlawfully conducts hearings on license revocations where the same person acts both as an advocate for revocation and as the adjudicator. Read the article at metnews.com.

KQED Interviews Bernard Soriano on Autonomous Vehicles (California)
ERM Deputy Director Bernard Soriano interviewed about autonomous vehicles. He discussed some of the requirements of the driverless testing and deployment regulations in California. Watch the interview at mms.tveyes.com.

License Renewal, Greater Implications (California)
Local Paradiseans are discovering a difference after driver license renewal. New since January 2018, Californians have the choice to opt for a ‘Real ID’ driver license or renew for a federal ‘non-compliant’ card, limiting cardholders in several ways. A non-compliant card has the words ‘federal limits apply’ in the top right corner. Read the article at paradisepost.com.

California’s First Driverless Bus Hits the Road in San Ramon
History was made at a quiet street corner in San Ramon Tuesday as a little red bus pulled out onto a public road with nobody at the wheel. ... "Now we're on a public street," Contra Costa Transportation Authority executive director Randy Iwasaki said. "You need a license or permission to operate from the California Department of Motor Vehicles." Read the article at abc7news.com.

DMV, Truckers Train to Recognize Signs of Human Trafficking (Nevada)
According to Awaken, a local organization working to fight human trafficking, more than 1500 people are sold online each month in the Reno-Tahoe area. ... "Human trafficking is pretty prevalent on the roads and truck stops," Alex Smith, public information officer for the Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles, said. Read the article at kolotv.com.

Doctor’s Note May No Longer Be Needed To Change Gender On Nevada Licenses
Nevada’s Department of Motor Vehicles is working to ease the process of changing gender markers on driver's licenses. ... Nevada's policies currently say that if somebody wants to change their gender identification on their driver's license, they need to get a doctor's signature. The proposed policy says a doctor's note would no longer be needed. Read the article at kunr.org.

Utah Looks Ahead with Expanded AV Legislation
Utah hopes to join the ranks of numerous other states by expanding its embrace of self-driving cars. The Utah State Legislature is considering a bill (HB 371) to allow fully autonomous vehicles to operate on the state’s roadways. Read the article at govtech.com.
Teens May Be More Skillful Drivers Than More Experienced Motorists
Teenage drivers may not be the accelerator-mashing menaces they're made out to be. A recent study by the University of California at Los Angeles found that many teens fared better behind the wheel than older motorists, even when navigating some of the state's worst roads. Read the article at cbsnews.com.

Senate Leaders Urged to Ignore 'Bogus Urgency,' Fix Flaws In Autonomous Car Bill
A diverse group of public interest organizations is urging Senate leaders to not advance legislation loosening restrictions on the development and deployment of self-driving vehicles until self-described safety flaws are corrected. Read the article at autonews.com.

Self-Driving Cars Continue to Face Little Resistance From the Federal Government
The US Department of Transportation convened a “listening session” on autonomous vehicles at its headquarters in Washington, DC, last week — and the key word here is “listening.” It was a chance for the private sector and federal and state regulators to get together to talk about the future, in which human driving becomes passé and driverless cars become the dominant form of transportation. Read the article at theverge.com.

Feds To Gather Data On Every New Vehicle Registered In Canada, Plus Most Older Ones (Canada)
The federal government is looking to collect data on every light-duty vehicle currently on Canada's roads, plus all new vehicle registrations that happen in the future. Natural Resources Canada issued an advance contract award notice on Tuesday morning for the creation of a “data collection system” that will be “required in the coming years (2018 to 2023) and will focus solely on vehicles in Canada.” There will be two databases, according to the department. Read the article at globalnews.ca.

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!***

GHSA @GHSAHQ | View the Tweet

What can be done to reduce the number of pedestrian fatalities? Four key strategies are examined in our report (see p.20-22): increased separation, higher visibility, speed reduction, and public awareness. (1/5) http://bit.ly/GHSA-Pedestrians18 …

AAA @AAASafety | View the Tweet
With #DaylightSaving this weekend, #SpringForward safely and #CheckForRecalls using this free tool from @NHTSAgov: http://bit.ly/2ttbCn1

NSC @NSCsafety | View the Tweet

"With the start of Daylight Saving Time this weekend, parents must be on the lookout for a dangerous driving risk to their teens: fatigue." Check out the latest from @DriveitHOME: http://driveithome.org/2018/03/daylight-saving-time-drowsy-driving ...

TIRF Canada @TIRFCANADA | View the Tweet

TRAFFIC INJURY RESEARCH FOUNDATION, USA Inc.
The knowledge source for safe driving

The deadline for applying on the @TIRFUSA Director of Research position is March 11th at 5:00pm Eastern Time. Visit http://www.tirf.ca to view the entire job description and how to apply. #jobsearch #USA

CSP Public Affairs @CSP_News | View the Tweet

We are honored to have our retired chiefs continue their support of our members.
Today we watch as retired chiefs James Wolfinbarger and Scott Hernandez received their Colonel Emeritus certificates.

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