Autonomous Vehicles Working Group Has Two Seats to Fill, Applications Now Being Accepted!

AAMVA is seeking to fill two vacancies on the Autonomous Vehicle Working Group with jurisdictional members. The purpose of the Working Group is to work with the AAMVA jurisdictions, law enforcement, federal agencies and other stakeholders to gather, organize and share information with the AAMVA community related to the development, design, testing, use and regulation of autonomous vehicles and other emerging vehicle technologies. Based on the group’s research, a guidance document to assist member jurisdiction in regulating autonomous vehicles will be completed.

This Working Group has been meeting for two years and is committed to at least one face-to-face meeting in 2017 and will hold several conference calls. Members of the group conduct research, draft portions of the guidance document in small groups and independently. Members may also be called upon to speak publicly about the working group.

For more information about the Working Group, please contact Cathie Curtis, (207) 395-4100. If you are interested in applying for the working group, please complete the application and send to Dianne Graham at committees@aamva.org by Friday, April 21.

Submissions Due Soon for Martha Irwin Award for Lifetime Achievement in Highway Safety

The Martha Irwin Award for Lifetime Achievement in Highway Safety is presented annually to an AAMVA member jurisdiction employee or other individual whose primary function is directly associated with highway and traffic safety efforts and who has had a distinguished career in this arena. The individual can be currently active or retired. One award is presented for achievement in highway safety in Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) and one for achievement in highway safety in Law Enforcement (LE). Visit the Safety Awards category of the AAMVA Awards Program for complete details about the Martha Irwin Award for Lifetime Achievement in Highway Safety. Award submissions and accompanying materials must be received by AAMVA by April 15, 2017. All submissions should be sent to awards@aamva.org. Download the 2017 Awards Submission Packet.

Delaware Adds More Officers to Drug Recognition Expert Program

Delaware's Office of Highway Safety will continue to expand its Drug Recognition Expert program. Right now there are 23 officers that are DRE certified working within...
the state's program. They added nine officers just this after months of training. Read the article in www.wmdt.com.

**Maine Senate Backs Bill To Implement Real ID Compliance**

The Maine Senate has voted 31-4 on Thursday to endorse a bill that will make Maine comply with the federal Real ID law. Read the full article in bangordailynews.com.

**New Jersey Proposal To Offer Tax Credits For Organ Donation Met With Skepticism**

A New Jersey lawmaker wants to incentivize people to become organ donors by offering tax credits in return. While the idea is to save more lives, critics say the plan could do more harm than good. Read the full story at NewYork.CBSLocal.com.

**New York to Approve Self-Driving Car Tests**

Public highways in New York will soon be open to testing self-driving cars, but only for the next year. Tucked into the budget lawmakers began approving Tuesday night is a measure allowing autonomous vehicles on New York's highways, but only for testing or demonstrations. Read the full story at WGRZ.com.

**Kentucky Moving Ahead with Compliance for REAL ID**

Kentucky will not begin issuing voluntary driver's licenses complaint with federal REAL ID regulations for about two years, but once the state begins making the licenses available, people will need them to board airplanes and enter federal facilities, such as military bases. Read the full article in www.aviationpros.com.

**DMV Notifying Thousands Personal Info May Have Been Released (North Carolina)**

The North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles is in the process of notifying up to 24,000 customers after discovering their personal information may have been disclosed. Read the full story at USNews.com.

**DPS Budget Cuts Could Possibly Close Driver's License Exam Sites (Oklahoma)**

Big budget cuts may soon have Oklahomans in smaller towns driving up to 100 miles to apply for a license. According to The Department of Public Safety, officials say they are facing a potential 15 percent budget cut. Those cuts would close 25 license exams sites across the state. Read the full article in www.kswo.com.

**Texas House Passes Bill Allowing Drivers to Donate Money to Rape Kit Testing**

Lawmakers are considering a bill that would create a mechanism for people to donate a buck or more to the Department of Public Safety while they're renewing or applying for driver's licenses or IDs — money that would go toward rape kit testing. On Wednesday, the bill sailed through the Texas House and is on its way to the Senate. Read the full story at HoustonPress.com.

**New Law Removes TNC Vehicle Registration Requirement for Uber, Lyft Drivers (Virginia)**

Transportation Network Company (TNC) drivers no longer need to obtain a special TNC vehicle registration from the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles to operate within the Commonwealth. This change in law, which also includes a modification to TNC vehicle registration requirements for out-of-state drivers, took effect March 25, 2017. Read the DMV press release.
New Ohio Law Designed To Stop Repeat Drunk Drivers Goes Into Effect
A new law — called Annie’s Law — designed to protect people from repeat drunk drivers took effect Tuesday. The new law increases penalties for first-time offenders and implements a new system to stop repeat offenders. Read the full story at NBC4i.com.

Arrest Shows How Facial Recognition Helps ADOT Prevent Identity Theft (Arizona)
A Casa Grande resident who allegedly used stolen identities to fraudulently obtain benefits and settlement payments was arrested thanks to Arizona Department of Transportation detectives’ use of facial recognition training and technology. Read the ADOT press release.

ICBC Mulls Charitable Custom License Plates
More custom license plates could soon pop up on cars around the province, as ICBC launches a community consultation process to find out if there’s any interest in specialty plates for charities, non-profits and even sports organizations. Read the article in www.news1130.com.

Study: Driver's Licenses For Undocumented May Have Reduced Hit-Runs In California
A California law granting driver's licenses to hundreds of thousands of people in the country illegally might have reduced the likelihood of hit-and-run collisions, according to a new study released Monday. Read the full story at ABC7.com.

California Considers Third Gender Option For State Documents
A growing group of Californians identifies as non-binary, and now they’re pushing a bill that would place a third gender option on state documents. California would be the first in the country with a third gender option on the books. Read the full story at Sacramento.CBSLocal.com.

DMV Accepts U.S. Passport Card for New Driver License, ID Card Applications (California)
The California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) announces the acceptance of a valid U.S. passport card when applying for a first time driver license (DL) or identification card (ID). The DMV included the U.S. passport card in the list of approved legal presence documents starting on April 3, 2017. Read the full story at SCVNews.com.

Washington, Oregon Closing In On Driver's License Fixes To Meet Federal Deadline
After years of resistance, Washington and Oregon lawmakers are finally acknowledging they have to accept stricter federal driver’s license security standards. Both states appear to be settling on having two kinds of licenses. Read the full article at klcc.org.
Self-Driving Cars Raise Questions About Who Carries Insurance

An accident last month in Tempe, Ariz., involving a self-driving Uber car highlighted some novel new issues regarding fault and liability that experts say will come up more often as autonomous vehicles hit the road. Read the full story at NPR.org.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**On Twitter**

@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!***

Drop The 'A' Word | View the Tweet
Kudos to NY rep @PatriciaFahy109 who is pushing bill to use #crashnotaccident #wordsmatter @wesavelives_ @NHTSAgov @GHSAHQ @AAMVACoNnection

Road to Zero | View the Tweet
Road to Zero Retweeted Federal Highway Admn
It takes all of us to get to ZERO road fatalities @USDOTFHWA @aashtospeaks @ITEq @IIHS_autosafety @AAASafety @SafeRoadsNow @AAMVACoNnection

DC DMV | View the Tweet
If contested tix and found liable, submit request for reconsideration within 30 calendar days. Details at http://ow.ly/3ajx30aDQ5B

Indiana State Police Verified account | View the Tweet
Indiana State Police Now Accepting Applications for Motor Carrier Inspectors http://nixle.us/9ABYL

NTSI | View the Tweet
Sorry, but your Grandma is probably a better driver than you http://nbcnews.to/2oEvbpn via @nbcnews

New Jersey DHTS | View the Tweet
#justdrive #DistractedDrivingAwarenessMonth