AAMVA Mourns Passing of Donald E. Williams
We are saddened to announce the passing this week of former Virginia DMV Commissioner Donald E. Williams. Commissioner Williams had a distinguished 36-year career with the Virginia DMV that started in 1958. After working his way up through the ranks, Mr. Williams was appointed Commissioner in 1980 by then-Governor John Dalton and served in that capacity until his retirement in 1994.

Under his innovative leadership, he started the transformation of the DMV into a highly customer service focused agency. Among those innovations were the creation of the On-line Dealer Program and the use of mobile licensing units, both outstanding customer service programs that are still with the agency today. A more complete list of his accomplishments are listed in Senate Joint Resolution No. 1005 (1994 Special Session I) which can be accessed here.

Commissioner Williams also served with distinction as AAMVA’s Board of Directors’ President in 1993 and Region 2 President that same year. Commissioner Williams added to our rich DMV history and we are all fortunate that he was part of our DMV family for so long. He will be deeply missed.

Presentations from AAMVA Region 2 Conference Are Now Online!
Many thanks to AAMVA members, staff and industry partners for making AAMVA’s 2018 Region 2 Annual Conference a success! Don't forget that many of the presentations from this week's conference in Myrtle Beach are already available for AAMVA members on AAMVA's Web site at the Region 2 Conference Downloads Center. Thanks again to all attendees for sharing your experiences, challenges and successes with your peers in the MVA community. Our industry partners once again astounded us with a plethora of innovative products and services to help motor vehicle and law enforcement administrative professionals achieve their goals and missions. We look forward to seeing you all at next year's Region 2 Annual Conference in Houston, Texas!

Massachusetts to Consider Adding Gender Option to Licenses
Massachusetts legislators are considering a third gender option for driver’s licenses...
Pennsylvania State Police Launches Body Camera Pilot Program

Pennsylvania State Police has deployed its first body-worn cameras in three troops as part of a pilot program. Acting Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) Commissioner Lieutenant Colonel Robert Evanchick announced select patrol troopers in Troop B, Uniontown; Troop J, Avondale; and Troop T, Somerset have received the appropriate training and will wear the cameras while on duty through the end of 2018. Read the article at readingeagle.com.

Governor Signs Bill Giving Dreamers Right to Driver's Licenses in Rhode Island

Gov. Gina Raimondo cited a badly broken national immigration system and signed legislation giving all children of illegal immigrants the right to obtain driver’s licenses once they’ve reached 16 years old. ... Raimondo repeated previous promises to sign legislation that would guarantee driver’s licenses to all “undocumented immigrants,” not just Dreamers. They are already here and driving, she said, and they should drive safely and with insurance. Read the article at providencejournal.com.

Police Ready to Enforce Georgia’s New Distracted Driving Law

Cops have seen us with our hands and eyes glued to our phones – talking, texting, messaging and all the other ways we romance the electronic devices that have become our most intimate drive-time companions. It’s a love affair with deadly consequences – a rising toll of death and mayhem on Georgia roads. Read the article at myajc.com.

Make Appointment, Gather Documents to Get REAL ID (North Carolina)

Officers of the DMV are busier than usual as people line up to upgrade to the soon-to-be-required REAL ID. "REAL ID is the new form of ID that alone will allow you to be on airplanes or access any federal facility or military base beginning in 2020," said Patrice Bethea of the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles. ... Those who don't make a change will have licenses that say "not for federal identification" and will have to bring additional documents to access those places. Read the article at wral.com.

South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles to Issue REAL IDs at GSP Airport

Beginning Oct. 1 2020, federal law requires your driver’s license or identification card to be REAL ID compliant in order to board a domestic, commercial flight, among other federal activities. Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport (GSP) is teaming up with the South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles (SCDMV) to help travelers prepare for the upcoming changes by bringing one of the agency's mobile offices to the airport July 18. Read the article at greertoday.com.

Fake License Plates Mean Free Rides For Hundreds Of North Texans

Hundreds of strangers were driving on the toll roads with plates registered to Montgomery Moore, who owns a small car dealership in Paris, Texas. But all of the temporary tags were expired. Pretty soon Moore owed $2,200 to the North Texas Tollway Authority. ... A public information request submitted to the NTTA revealed at
least 260 different vehicles with Moore’s plates on them, all driving on toll roads with all the bills going to Moore. Read the article at dfw.cbslocal.com.

Virginia DMV Introduces New 'REAL ID' Credentials
Virginia residents will have the option to upgrade their current Virginia driver’s license or identification card to a “REAL ID” beginning Oct. 1 of this year, The Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles said in a news release. Federal officials will require state-issued identification and licenses used to board domestic flights or enter secure federal facilities be REAL ID compliant beginning Oct. 1, 2020. Read the article at dailypress.com.

Judge Strikes Down Kansas Law Requiring Proof of Citizenship to Vote
A federal judge on Monday struck down a Kansas law requiring documentary proof of U.S. citizenship to register to vote, finding that such laws violate the constitutional right to vote. ... The lead case filed by the ACLU on behalf of several named voters and the League of Women Voters is centered on the National Voter Registration Act, commonly known as the Motor Voter Law, which allows people to register to vote when applying for a driver's license. Read the article at nbcnews.com.

License Plates Supporting Families of Fallen Minnesota Officers Available July 1
Commemorative Minnesota license plates supporting the families of fallen law enforcement officers will be available next month, the Minnesota Law Enforcement Memorial Association announced. ... Proceeds from the license plates will be used to support families of fallen Minnesota law enforcement personnel. Read the article at fox9.com.

Minnesota Officials Clarify REAL ID
You’ve heard about REAL ID off and on for a while now. But many are wondering what they should do if their license expires this summer. Minnesotans will be able to apply for a REAL ID beginning October 1. Those with a driver's license that expires before that date are encouraged to renew it as you normally would. ... If you want to renew now but also get your REAL ID before your license next expires, you can do so for an additional small fee ranging from $2 to $6 depending on expiration date. Read the article at keyc.com.

Ohio's New 'Compliant' Driver's Licenses Require Extra Documents
First, remember that you don't have to have the new compliant driver's licenses until October 2020. In lieu of the new driver's compliant license or identification card issued after July 2, 2018, you can fly domestically with a passport. If you want the new compliant ID, you need documents in these categories: proof of identity, date of birth and legal status; proof of Social Security number; proof of Ohio residency. Read the article at cleveland.com.

California Tests Kindle-ized License Plates
This year, auto dealers in California will be able to go beyond personalized license plate frames to sell “Kindle-ized” license plates, in which the entire plate can display custom text and graphics using e-paper technology. These displays can be updated remotely, with such updates replacing the little date stickers that must be reapplied each year when registration is renewed. And, when the car is stopped, drivers will also be able to reduce the license number to a small window and use the rest of the screen for a different graphic. Read the article at spectrum.ieee.org.

New Seat Belt Law Impacts Transit Riders (California)
Time to buckle up while riding the bus. On July 1, a change to the California Vehicle Code goes into effect requiring everyone age 16 and older to wear a seat belt on all public transportation vehicles. The law also mandates that children under the age of
16 must be secured by either a seat belt or a child restraint that meets Federal motor vehicle safety standards. Read the article at bigbeargrizzly.net.

Legislation Looming to Make Cell Phone Citation a Mark Against DMV Driving Record (California)
Operating a cell phone while driving could soon result in a point being added to the offender's driving record. In April, the California State Senate unanimously passed SB 1030, which would make distracted driving a moving violation and add a point to the offender's driving record and thus raise a driver's insurance rates. The legislation will head to the Assembly before it goes to the governor's office for signature. Read the article at krctv.com.

Colorado Citizens Now Can Skip the Trip to DMV with Gov2Go
Colorado citizens now have access to Gov2Go, a technology platform that makes it easier for them to interact with all levels of government. Among other benefits, Gov2Go lets citizens “Skip The Trip” to the DMV for vehicle tag renewals. Citizens can download Gov2Go, receive renewal reminders and renew their vehicle tags from the convenience of their mobile phones. Read the article at businnesswire.com.

Oregon License Plate Transfer Law to Change July 1
A new Oregon consumer protection law will change requirements for transferring license plates from one vehicle to another as of July 1. Under House Bill 4062, passed by the 2018 Legislature, you will still be able to transfer plates with unexpired registration tags to another vehicle that you own. However, in a plate transfer between vehicles with different owners, both vehicles will begin new registration periods and both vehicles are subject to all registration requirements. Read the article at ktvz.com.

Tesla's Alleged Rogue Employee is Exactly What Congress is Worried About with Self-Driving Cars
Tesla's lawsuit against former employee Martin Tripp alleges that he hacked computer systems to steal intellectual property, not to harm drivers of the company's cars. But the idea that a malicious insider could successfully tamper with software used in the vehicles' battery testing process is more fodder for worst-case scenarios raised by lawmakers over self-driving cars. Read the article at cnbc.com.

U.S. Senate Panel Sets Vote on NHTSA Nominee
President Donald Trump's pick to lead the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration will face a key vote Wednesday on whether her nomination should move forward. (Heidi) King, who came to NHTSA with a private sector background as global director of environmental health and safety risk at GE Capital, told lawmakers in her May testimony that she questioned whether NHTSA will have the legal authority to compel carmakers to release public plans for fixing faulty air bags, noting that some of the information about fixes for specific models could be proprietary. Read the article at detroitnews.com.

California and Eight Other States Ready Plan to Boost Zero-Emission Vehicles
California and eight other states are preparing to roll out a plan pressuring car companies and others to meet ambitious goals for sales of electric vehicles and other environmentally friendly automobiles—part of an effort to maintain tough local regulations while the Trump administration moves to relax nationwide standards for tailpipe emissions. Read the article at wsj.com.

‘Autopilot Buddy’ That Tricks Tesla Vehicles Declared ‘Unsafe’ by US
The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration issued a cease and desist order Tuesday to the manufacturer of a $199 aftermarket device that tricks Tesla’s Autopilot system into thinking a driver’s hands are on the steering wheel. The “Autopilot Buddy” is a piece of magnetic plastic that attaches to a Tesla vehicle’s steering wheel in order to create the impression that the driver is keeping his or her hands there. Read the article at theverge.com.
Many Young People With Autism Can Become Safe Drivers: Study
Letting any teen behind the wheel of a car is nerve-wracking for parents, but if your teen has autism, you may wonder if driving is even possible. Well, a new study offers some comfort because it found that kids with autism who aren't intellectually disabled are probably capable of driving a car safely, though they may need more practice time before they get their license. Read the article at health.usnews.com.

Free Parking for People with Disabilities to End with New Automated Enforcement System (Canada)
Residents who require disabled parking are worried the city's new automated parking enforcement system will hurt their ability to get around. People with accessible parking placards can currently park at any EPark stall for free, but will be required to pay when the new system is implemented in July. ... Under the new system, a digital camera will scan licence plates in EPark zones to validate if a vehicle's parking has been paid ... but the system won't be able to read the parking placards. Read the article at edmontonjournal.com.

Changing Driving Laws to Support Automated Vehicles
The National Transport Commission in Australia has released a report that identifies the responsible parties in situations when an automated driving system may drive a vehicle and establishes legal obligations that may be required for users of automated vehicles. This report also outlines any further work that needs to be done in order for legislative reform concerning automated vehicles to occur. Read more at trb.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!***

Stop the Texts @StoptheTexts | View the Tweet
Driving? Park your phone. #StopTexts

NEStatePatrol @NEStatePatrol | View the Tweet
The Final Round in the NSP Cruiser Tournament is here! 414 (fire) vs 590 (rainbow)
Vote!

Road to Zero @RoadToZeroUS | View the Tweet
Everybody's At Risk with teen Driver Crashes. These are the biggest contributors:
Put the phones away
Buckle up
Slow down
#JustDrive
#100DeadliestDays
@AAASafety

AR State Police @ARStatePolice | View the Tweet
ATTENTION LEFT LANE DRIVERS! Troopers enforce this law, but the best way to combat this is to educate the ones who are unaware! In Arkansas "Motor vehicles shall not be operated continuously in the left lane of a multilane roadway whenever it impedes the flow of other traffic."
Jack Lamson @JackLamsonCBS6 | View the Tweet
More Jack Lamson Retweeted WPDE ABC15
If more people dealt with the media & community the way @TrooperBob_SCHP does - we'd all be in a better place. Congrats!

WPDE ABC15 @wpdeabc15
From law enforcement to Emmy winner. Trooper Bob uses emojis with a message. He says, "It’s a good way to connect with the community; get our message out."
bit.ly/2JZdljW