AAMVA Wins Excel Award for Holiday Video
AAMVA’s [2020 holiday video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=videoID), featuring President & CEO Anne Ferro reading a festive, COVID-themed story, has won a Bronze Excel Award from Association Media & Publishing (AM&P). The EXCEL Awards is the largest and most prestigious award program that exclusively recognizes excellence and leadership in nonprofit association media, publishing, marketing, and communications. [Click here](https://www.aamva.org/excel-awards) to learn more about the Excel Awards.

Jurisdiction Response to COVID-19
[Click here](https://www.aamva.org/jurisdiction-response-to-covid-19) to view consolidated information and see how motor vehicle administrations are handling driver licensing and vehicle registration. This document will be updated with the most current information on our [homepage](https://www.aamva.org).

Motor Vehicle Industry Response to COVID-19 Pandemic
Below is a selection of news articles regarding the effects of coronavirus on the motor vehicle community.

**COVID-19 | National News Coverage**

**COVID-19 | Region 1 News Coverage**
- [Delaware DMV To Make Operational Changes on July 13](https://www.aamva.org/delaware-dmv-to-make-operational-changes-on-july-13)
Interesting in having your logo appear here? Become a Regional News sponsor by contacting Rob Stershic, 703.908.2825.

DMV To Reopen Satellite Offices, All To Remain Appointment Only (Vermont)

COVID-19 | REGION 2 NEWS COVERAGE

DMV Reports Thousands of No-Show Appointments Since System Started (Virginia)
Virginia Saw More Deadly Crashes With Speed-Related Fatalities Reaching a 10-Year High in 2020

COVID-19 | REGION 3 NEWS COVERAGE

Illinois Drivers License: Renewal Deadline, What To Know

COVID-19 | REGION 4 NEWS COVERAGE

California DMV’s Progress Continues Despite the Pandemic
Hawaii DMV Offices Offer Extended Hours To Address Renewal Backlog

Visit cdc.gov for more information on COVID-19, guidance, press releases, press kits, and more.

REGION 1 NEWS

New State Law Provides Marylanders More Flexibility, Greater Online Access for MDOT MVA Services
The Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration (MDOT MVA) is alerting customers to new laws going into effect July 1 that will provide more flexibility in obtaining and renewing certain products including driver’s licenses, learner’s permits, and identification cards. Read more at southernmarylandchronicle.com.

These Are the Companies Using Self-Driving Cars in Pennsylvania
While you wouldn’t know it from driving in the Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania is a growing hotspot for tech companies looking to test self-driving cars. Thanks in part to Carnegie Mellon University’s decades of research in autonomous vehicles, Pittsburgh has become the home of multiple tech firms. Those companies, many of which have partnered with auto manufacturers from around the globe, have been testing their vehicles in Allegheny County and neighboring communities for years. Read more at mcall.com.

REGION 2 NEWS

Kentucky Continues Transition to Regional Driver’s Licensing Offices, Additional Offices To Be Added
Kentucky’s transition to regional driver’s licensing offices continues. In Frankfort on Tuesday, the Interim Joint Committee on Transportation met to discuss the latest updates from Sarah Jackson, the Real ID project manager for the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. Read more at wdrb.com.

Insured Oklahoma Drivers Are Getting Notices That They Are Not Covered- Here’s What To Do
Since late 2018, cameras have been on the Oklahoma streets working to catch uninsured drivers. It’s a program that hasn’t been without some hiccups though, and now, once again, insured drivers are facing confusion when they

https://www.magnetmail.net/design/preview.cfm?version=html&message_id=20527021&contentType=MailMessage
are issued fines. When you cruise the streets of Oklahoma – smile – you might be on hidden camera... The cameras compare your vehicle’s information to the insurance department’s list of uninsured registration. Read more at kfor.com.

**Catalytic Converter Thefts Continue to Rise; New Bill Calls for Harsher Penalties (Texas)**
Innocent victims are becoming a crime of opportunity, simply as they’re going to the grocery store, or parking in a lot. Catalytic converter thefts are a hot crime, and Dallas police detectives have been working relentlessly on solving them. The governor even signing a new bill that will include harsher penalties. Read more at wfaa.com.

**REGION 3 NEWS**

**Jesse White Issues Reminder: Electronic Automobile Insurance Verification Program Has Begun (Illinois)**
Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White is reminding drivers that electronic verification of automobile insurance has begun, and vehicle owners who are unable to prove insurance will face a license plate suspension and $100 reinstatement fee. Enforcement of the state’s mandatory insurance electronic verification program began on July 1, 2021. Read more at riverbender.com.

**Iowa DOT’s Motor Vehicle Enforcement To Participate in Operation Safe Driver July 11-17**
The Iowa Department of Transportation’s Motor Vehicle Enforcement group will be participating in Operation Safe Driver week July 11-17, an effort by the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance to bring attention to motor carrier safety issues...This year’s event will focus on speeding. Read more at swlowanewssource.com.

**REGION 4 NEWS**

**DMV Offering Paperless Reminders for Driver’s License Renewals (California)**
The DMV announced Tuesday that it is providing California motorists, including those in Santa Clarita, paperless driver’s license renewal reminders as an alternative to its existing mail reminders. “Our customers can now ‘go green’ with the DMV and opt-in to receive an email instead of a paper renewal notice in the mail when their driver’s license is about to expire,” said California DMV Director Steve Gordon. Read more at hometownstation.com.

**Op-Ed: What It Will Take To Get Electric Cars Into Low-Income Communities? (California)**
The California Energy Commission said in June that the state needs about 1.2 million electric vehicle chargers in public and shared private locations, such as office complexes and multi-unit dwellings, to meet its mandated goal of putting 8 million zero-emission passenger vehicles on the road by 2030...To accelerate EV adoption and meet the state’s goals, electrification must happen more equitably and profitably. Read more at latimes.com.

**New Nevada Driver License Design Unveiled**
State officials have unveiled a new design for Nevada driver licenses that will be issued starting next week. The Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles says the new card features updated design elements and security features. The "Battle Born" insignia is now featured as the background image on the front of the license, taking the place of the old state capitol building. Read more at news3lv.com.

Robotaxi App: Las Vegas Pilot Program Sends an Electric Car to You Without a Driver (Nevada) (Video)
Autonomous vehicle tech company Halo and T-Mobile plan a pilot program in Las Vegas to send driverless electric cars to consumers via a mobile app. Read more at usatoday.com.

SGI Shines Traffic Safety Spotlight on Construction Zones, Commercial Vehicles (Saskatchewan)
Restrictions in Saskatchewan and even those between provinces are starting to loosen up and that means more people will be on the road this summer than last. It also means more people will have to be on the lookout for construction zones. Read more at discoverestevan.com.

Motorcyclists Say SGI’s Proposed Insurance Rate Increase Is Too High (Saskatchewan)
Some motorcyclists say SGI’s proposed insurance rate hike is making it increasingly expensive to ride. Don Fuller has been riding motorcycles for five decades, and is a member of the group Riders Against Government Exploitation (RAGE). He said it already costs him about $3,000 per year to license a motorcycle, and that is expected to increase by 10 per cent. Read more at regina.ctvnews.ca.

Industry, Regulators Target Higher Adoption Rates for Onboard Safety Technologies
Can a concerted outreach campaign convince more motor carriers to voluntarily embrace proven safety technologies, or will it take a potential regulatory mandate to drive adoption rates? It's likely too soon to answer that question, but efforts by federal regulators to require such technology on new trucks are quietly progressing. Read more at ttnews.com.

Tank Truck Driver Scarcity Could Result in Spot Fuel Shortages
Trucking and oil industry experts are warning of possible delays in fuel deliveries during the peak of the summer driving season as the pinch from the driver shortage — particularly among tanker truck drivers — could slow down service to fueling stations. Read more at ttnews.com.

PHMSA Seeks Ideas To Improve Safe HAZMAT Transportation
The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration is seeking ideas for leading-edge research and innovative techniques to advance the safe transportation of hazardous materials. A new request by the agency specifically calls for new research ideas on safe transport for aerosols and small quantities of explosives, new standards for bulk and non-bulk packaging, better understanding of the hazards posed by dissolved gases in
liquids and the deregulation of certain types and quantities of hazardous materials. Read more at tnews.com.

---

**GM Recalling Over 400K Chevy, GMC Pickups Because Airbags Can Explode**

General Motors is recalling more than 400,000 pickup trucks in the U.S. because the side airbags can explode without warning and spew parts into the cabin. The recall covers certain 2015 and 2016 Chevrolet and GMC Sierra 1500, 2500, and 3500 trucks. Documents posted Friday by U.S. safety regulators say the airbag inflator can rupture or the end cap can fly off on both sides of the trucks. Read more at wnct.com.

---

**Welcome to Simulation City, The Virtual World Where Waymo Tests Its Autonomous Vehicles**

A light gray cube with a thin blue top glides down a darkened highway, beset on all sides by dozens of green cubes. The green cubes bounce between lanes in an attempt to pass the gray cube, but the gray cube maintains a steady speed as the blackened landscape slips past into the artificial night. This is Simulation City, the virtual world where Waymo, an offshoot of Google, tests its autonomous vehicles in preparation for real-world experiences. Read more at theverge.com.

---

**House Passes ‘INVEST in America’ Reauthorization Bill**

The House of Representatives passed the “Investing in a New Vision for the Environment and Surface Transportation in America” or INVEST in America Act on July 1 by a vote of the 221-201, with eight members not voting. The $715 billion package includes the five-year, $547 billion surface reauthorization bill – H.R. 3684 – along with $168 billion for drinking and wastewater infrastructure. Read more at aashtojournal.org.

---

**TWITTER NEWS**

Stay on top of the chatter in the MVA and LE community on social media. You may be surprised at what you're missing! Here are a few highlights of last weeks' activity.
Thanks @WTNH @MackenzieMNews for showcasing the great work being done by students at Arts at the Capitol Theater! @CAS_ct @EducateCT

WTNH News 8 @WTNH · Jul 6
News 8's @MackenzieMNews has tonight's What's Right With Schools: Windham high school students get hands-on experience producing DMV videos. > > bit.ly/3hDL1m

KY State Police Retweeted

CVSA @CVSA

#OperationSafeDriverWeek starts this Sunday, July 11, to July 17. Officers will be on the lookout for drivers engaging in risky driving behaviors in or around a commercial vehicle. Unsafe drivers will be pulled over and issued a citation or warning. cvsa.org/news/2021-osd-...
Do you know where the blind spots are on a tractor-trailer? Remember this the next time you're sharing the road with one!

None of the motorcycles in this picture can be seen in the trucker's mirrors or other blind spots. Take a moment and share this, it could save the life of someone you love!

Michigan residents can now complete driver's license, ID and vehicle registration transactions in Bengali or Mandarin on our 150 self-service stations, in addition to English, Spanish, Arabic and Vietnamese.

Michigan.gov/SOS
Ontario Ministry of Transportation

@ONtransport

We are freezing fees for driver and commercial vehicle products to help alleviate financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Learn more: news.ontario.ca/en/backgrounde...

Supporting Ontarians
Freezing Driver and Commercial Vehicle Fees

#SCDMV at the Grand Opening ceremony for the new Moncks Corner location. Special thanks to Senator @larrygrooms Representative @syllestedavis, Representative Joe Jefferson, and Vice Chairman Tommy Newell for speaking.

Tennessee Highway Safety Office

@TNI-SO

We're covering all things #olderdriversafety, including recent data, safety tips, and resources for older drivers and caregivers on Talking Traffic Safety! youtu.be/mPEQY7SpsA #TalkingTrafficSafety

Experts Discuss Older Driver Safety | Talking Traffic Safety
Getting older does not necessarily mean a person’s driving days are over. But some of the changes you experience as ... youtube.com
4401 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 700, Arlington, VA 22203