AAMVA's 2021 Virtual AIC Up

From August 31 to September 2, AAMVA hosted the 2021 Virtual Annual International Conference (AIC). This event was originally planned to take place in Denver, CO, but for the safety of our members, attendees, and staff, we decided to pivot and hold the AIC as a virtual event. During the conference, members had the opportunity to network and attend sessions on hot topics, including mDL, REAL ID, driver and vehicle safety, fraud detection and prevention, the impact of COVID-19 on members, and more. The conference ended with the swearing in of our new International Board of Directors and the transition from Mike Dixon (CO) to Chrissy Nizer (MD) as Chair.

View photos of the event by visiting our Flickr page. Presentation slides will be available on the AIC website next week (for AAMVA members). If you attended the conference, please don't forget to provide feedback via the survey by Friday, September 10. Thank you to all of our attendees for being flexible during this unpredictable time, and to our sponsors who made this event possible!

Jurisdiction Response to COVID-19

Click here 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.

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

- FMCSA Extends Historic 50 State COVID-19 Hours of Service Waiver, Fuel Haulers Now Covered
- Surging Crash-Death Rates That Took Hold With Pandemic Continued This Year, According to New Estimate
- Another Back-to-School Hurdle: Not Enough Bus Drivers
- EU Takes U.S. off Safe Country List, Recommends Europe Travel Restrictions Tighten for Americans
• Ford's U.S. Sales Decline 33% in August as Chip Shortage Devastates Auto Industry
• Uber and Lyft Rides Are More Expensive Than Ever Because of a Driver Shortage
• Thieves Strike: Auto Theft Spikes During the Pandemic as Cars Are Left Unattended

**COVID-19 | Region 1 News Coverage**

• Time Is Running Out for DC Drivers To Renew Their Expired Licenses (Washington, DC)

**COVID-19 | Region 3 News Coverage**

• Chicago Public Schools To Pay Families To Get Children to School if Buses Aren’t Available Due to Driver Shortage (Illinois)

**COVID-19 | Region 4 News Coverage**

• DMV: California Commercial Driver’s License Expiration Extended Through Nov. 30
• Nevada DMV To Provide COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics After Hours, Weekends in Clark County

Visit [cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) for more information on COVID-19, guidance, press releases, press kits, and more.

**Region 1 News**

**Unbuckled? What’s Holding You Back This Holiday Weekend? (Maryland)**

The Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration’s (MDOT MVA) Highway Safety Office is using its Rollover Simulator this week to remind attendees at the Maryland State Fair to put safety first over Labor Day weekend and every day by always buckling up when they travel. Read more at [southernmarylandchronicle.com](http://www.southernmarylandchronicle.com).

**Over 23,000 Speeding Tickets Issued During 2021 Speed Week (New York)**

The New York DMV announced 23,087 speeding tickets were issued during the 2021 Speed Awareness Week, over 1,600 more than the same week last year. Law enforcement issued an additional 37,746 tickets for other violations, for a total of 60,833 tickets between July 31 and August 8, 2021. According to the DMV, most fatal crashes that involve speeding occur between June and October. Read more at [mytwintiers.com](http://www.mytwintiers.com).

**Region 2 News**

**Tesla Car on Autopilot Hits Parked Police Car in Florida**

A Tesla car collided into a parked police car and Mercedes SUV in Orlando, Fla., early Saturday morning after the driver put the car on autopilot — a feature that has increasingly come under scrutiny by federal regulators and U.S. lawmakers. Photos posted on social media by FHP showed substantial damage to the vehicles, though the department noted that the trooper was standing outside his car at the time of the crash. Read more at [thehill.com](http://www.thehill.com).
Virginia Maps Out Optional Per-Mile Road Fee Program for 2022 Launch
A year out from Virginia’s planned launch of an opt-in system that would charge drivers of electric and fuel-efficient vehicles based on how many miles they travel instead of a higher fixed fee, a state work group is hammering out more details on how the program could work. State officials are projecting almost 975,000 vehicles could be eligible for the program when it launches in 2022, but the details of its implementation could determine how many Virginians decide its worth trying to potentially save money. Read more at virginiamercury.com.

REGION 3 NEWS

Minnesota Hits 300 Traffic Deaths at Earliest Point in Year Since 2007
Minnesota reached 300 traffic accident deaths before Labor Day for the first time in more than a decade, prompting state public safety officials on Monday to issue a plea for people to slow down. The state reported its 300th fatality on Saturday, which is the earliest the state has eclipsed that threshold since 2007, according to data from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety’s Office of Traffic Safety. Read more at minnesota.cbslocal.com.

Motorcycle Fatalities in Nebraska Are Way Down (So Far) In 2021
Traffic deaths on Nebraska roads at this point in 2021 are down compared with previous years, especially among motorcyclists. “We hope this trend continues and we keep going in the right direction...We know that more motorcyclists were taking training classes and getting the motorcycle endorsements on their driver’s license.” Read more at journalstar.com.

North Dakota Department of Transportation Wins AAMVA Award
The American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators has announced the North Dakota Department of Transportation Safety Division is the recipient of the 2021 Public Affairs and Consumer Education Overall Campaign Award (Budget under $50k) for their Melanie Johnson Distracted Driving campaign. Read more at wdayradionow.com.

REGION 4 NEWS

Don’t Worry About Bringing Your Social Security Card to the DMV in Colorado as Long as You Know the Number
Coloradans applying for a driver license no longer need to bring a physical Social Security card with their number on it. Instead, applicants can provide it verbally and the DMVs in Colorado will verify the information with the Social Security Administration. Read more at denver.cbslocal.com.

American City Curbs Speeding Drivers on Residential Street by Using “Rest in Red” Solution (New Mexico)
A city in the American state of New Mexico has introduced a new way of reducing the amount of speeding vehicles and subsequent crashes at traffic lights by introducing what’s called a “rest in red” solution. Cars travelling along Coal Avenue and Lead Avenue in Albuquerque leave the lights on red until a car starts travelling towards them. If it is going at a safe speed the lights
change, but if not it is forced to stop at the lights. Read more at highways-news.com.

‘A Reality Check’: Saskatoon Smashed Vehicle Campaign Aims To Raise Awareness About Impaired Driving (Saskatchewan)
Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) hopes an eye-catching smashed vehicle display will make drivers think twice about getting behind the wheel impaired. The display was unveiled Thursday in the southwest corner of Warman and Wanuskewin Road. The smashed vehicle will be on display at four different locations until Oct. 28. Read more at saskatoon.ctvnews.ca.

OTHER NEWS

Driver’s Licenses Will Soon Be Coming to the iPhone and Apple Watch in These 8 States
Eight states will begin to roll out a new feature that will allow users to add their driver’s license and state IDs to Apple Wallet for iPhone and Apple Watch. Arizona and Georgia will be the first states to introduce the feature, Apple announced on Wednesday, with Connecticut, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Oklahoma and Utah to follow afterward. Read more at npr.org.

Expired Driver’s Licenses Open Lane for Cybercriminals
After the COVID-19 pandemic hit last year, many states issued emergency declarations allowing driver’s licenses to remain valid past expiration dates. But those extensions mostly have ended, and drivers now need to make sure their licenses are renewed. Scammers are exploiting that shift, cybersecurity experts say. Read more at pewtrusts.org.

Federal Response to Ida Includes Regulatory Relief for Truckers
Hours-of-service flexibility for truckers involved in critical relief efforts is one element of the federal government’s response to Tropical Depression Ida. Ida made landfall as a Category 4 hurricane Aug. 29, slamming Louisiana with winds reaching 150 mph. Read more at ttnews.com.

TRB Panelists Consider Future Study Potential of LED Lighting
The long-term effects of roadway lighting is an area of study that could benefit from further targeted research, experts presenting during a Transportation Research Board webinar said. They presented findings from a study on light-emitting diode (LED) roadway lighting’s acute effects on driver sleep health and alertness during a session Aug. 31. Read more at ttnews.com.

NHTSA Solicits Input Ahead of Information Collection
The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is accepting public comments on the agency’s intention to request approval for an information collection regarding event data recorders (EDRs). NHTSA issued the request for comments in a notice published in the Federal Register on Aug. 26. Read more at ttnews.com.

Rainbow Road Sign Film Would Be Easier for Autonomous Vehicles To Read
Autonomous vehicles need to operate in a complex environment, and recognizing traffic signs is an important part of that. A new microstructured material reflects light in rainbow rings, which can make traffic signs easier for computer vision systems to read. Even outside of fully autonomous vehicles, traffic sign recognition has been part of driver assistance systems for over a decade. Read more at newsatlas.com.

The Time a Human-Driven Car Ran Over an Autonomous Robot

Crossing city streets filled with SUV drivers in a hurry is tricky for any pedestrian, but what about a robot that’s less than two feet tall? Starship Technologies is flooding college towns with autonomous electric delivery bots that trundle goods to your location in their locked storage compartment. Read more at theverge.com.

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.

September is National DMV Appreciation Month! #DMVMonth recognizes the vital role of DMVs in saving lives: DMVs ask the donor registration question to customers every day. Thank you DMV partners! #DonateLife DonateLife.net/DMV 🍀❤️🚗
We're partnering with @NMStatePolice and our other neighbors in a common message: no matter the trip, buckle up, every time. #State2State

Last week, the FHP Office of Commercial Motor Vehicle Troopers participated in the August 22-28, 2021 Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance’s (CVSA) Brake Safety Week. It is one of several nationwide joint efforts FHP participates in with CVSA to create a safer Florida.
In the latest episode of Conversations with Chrissy, Administrator Nizor discusses appointment updates, the MDOT MVA mobile bus, Labor Day safety, and more! Watch here: [youtu.be/YUGXBlqBy4](https://youtu.be/YUGXBlqBy4).

#MDOTScenes

---

New Hampshire DMV Retweeted

@NH_DehpSafety

Make the right decision, every time!

#DriveSoberOrGetPulledOver

---

@NH_OfficeofHighwaySafety @nh_ohs · Aug 18

August 18th through September 6th, law enforcement across the state are participating in a national Driver Sober or Get Pulled Over initiative. Everyone deserves a safe and fun summer — so remember, #DriverSoberOrGetPulledOver.

@NH_StatePolice @NH_DehpSafety @NHTSAgov
Owen McShane, director of field investigations, earned a lifetime achievement in highway safety award this week from @AAMVACo. McShane's team works to combat auto theft, identity theft, odometer fraud and the use of fraudulent or altered documents. dmv.ny.gov/press-release/

---

PA State Police Retweeted

Trooper Megan Ammerman

@PSPTroopHPO

Many crashes and flooded roadways in the area. Do not drive unless you have to and drive with extra caution! #turnarounddont drown
School bus inspections: How Michigan State Police works to keep kids safe

As we head back to school, is your child’s school bus safe? When you consider the numbers, it is an important question.

You know how scary it is when you have to make an emergency stop by the side of a highway and cars whip past you at breakneck speeds? That happens to troopers every day — even though moving over is the law. Learn how it came about in our latest #DPSblog: go.usa.gov/user/799372.
Remember, before buying a used car, always go to the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System's website to check the vehicle's history at bit.ly/3x2R4xc.

Seat belts save lives! The occupants of this vehicle walked away with only minor injuries.

As we enter Labor Day Weekend let's keep the goal of Zero Fatalities and Buckle Up Everytime!