2021 Virtual Annual International Conference Downloads Are Now Available!

From August 31 to September 2, AAMVA hosted the 2021 Virtual Annual International Conference (AIC). 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. Presentation slides are now available on the AIC website (for AAMVA members). 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**

- 2021 National Truck Driver Appreciation Week

**COVID-19 | REGION 1 NEWS COVERAGE**

- $7,000 Sign-on Bonus for South Windsor School Bus Drivers (Connecticut)
- Massachusetts National Guard Activated To Help Deal With School Bus Driver Shortage

**COVID-19 | REGION 2 NEWS COVERAGE**

- Miami International Becomes First U.S. Airport To Use COVID Sniffing Dogs (Florida)
COVID-19 | REGION 3 NEWS COVERAGE

- You’ll Need an Appointment -- But Can Skip the Lines -- At Many Driver Services Facilities (Illinois)

COVID-19 | REGION 4 NEWS COVERAGE

- Oregon Department of Transportation Workers Express Concern as Vaccine Mandate Date Nears
- Sask. Sets Another Daily COVID-19 Record With 506 New Cases (Saskatchewan)

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

REGION 1 NEWS

Ontario Drivers Now Face Stricter Speeding and Stunt Driving Penalties
If driving fast is your style, be prepared for harsher penalties if you’re caught in Ontario. As of Sunday, September 12, 2021, if you’re stopped for a stunt driving offence, your driver’s licence will now be suspended roadside for 30 days, up from the previous seven days. Stunt driving is more than just speeding, although that’s a big part of it. [Read more at driving.ca](https://www.driving.ca).

REGION 2 NEWS

Seven More Indicted in New Orleans Staged Crash Scam (Louisiana)
Seven individuals have been charged with staging two accidents with tractor-trailers in New Orleans, bringing the number of indictments to 40 in a federal investigation into intentional collisions with trucks. On Sept. 13, federal prosecutors announced a four-count indictment of seven individuals on mail fraud and conspiracy to commit mail fraud charges in connection with intentional collisions in 2016 and 2017. [Read more at ttnews.com](https://www.ttnews.com).

DOT Workshop To Focus on Urging Small, Minority-Owned Businesses To Compete for State Contracts (North Carolina)
Small business owners looking to compete for state transportation contracts are invited to attend Sept. 25 workshop at Southeastern Community College in Columbus County, The N.C. Department of Transportation is hosting informational meetings aimed at disadvantaged businesses enterprises, which include small businesses and those companies run by minorities or women. [Read more at wect.com](https://www.wect.com).

A West Virginia City Is Taking a Tesla Patrol Car for a Test Drive
A West Virginia police department is kicking the tires on a new Tesla patrol car, and city officials think the fancy new ride could save them thousands of dollars each year. The City of Nitro, near Charleston, bought the Tesla Model 3 for about $40,000 -- a little more than its other cruisers cost -- and then spent another $10,000 to outfit it with lights, sirens and other equipment a police car needs, CNN affiliate WCHS reported. [Read more at cnn.com](https://www.cnn.com).

VIEW ALL EVENTS

SYSTEMS TRAINING

OCTOBER - S2S

19 | S2S DHR Administration

26 | Best Practices for Potential Duplicate Resolution NEW!

https://www.magnetmail.net/design/preview.cfm?version=html&message_id=20817950&contentType=MailMessage
Secretary of State Reminds Drivers To Report Defective License Plates (Illinois)
Illinois vehicle owners are being reminded to report their license plates to the Secretary of State’s office that are peeling, chipping or rusting in order to receive replacement plates at no charge. Vehicle owners whose license plates are damaged or degraded can notify the Secretary of State’s office...Owners are encouraged to recycle their old plates by taking them to a Secretary of State facility and disposing of them in the tamper-proof bin. Read more at week.com.

Iowa DOT To Roll Out First Phase of Virtual ID by 2022
The Iowa Department of Transportation is developing a form of identification that can be accessed through smartphone devices. The DOT hopes to roll out the first phase of the program to a small number of users in January 2022. “We’ve kind of taken our time in that development because our customer’s privacy and security have been at the forefront of our product,” said Andrea Henry, with the Iowa DOT. Read more at kcrg.com.

Missouri Gave up $370 Million in Highway Construction Funds To Let Passengers Drink Booze
As a penalty for ignoring federal safety laws, Missouri has diverted millions of dollars in road construction funds to safety programs. But critics say the state’s open container policies make roads more dangerous...Unlike most of the country — and despite evidence on roadway safety — the state lets passengers drink in moving vehicles. This unusual policy comes at a cost beyond the added risks on roads. Read more at kcur.org.

Ohio Cuts Ribbon on World’s Most Connected Highway
Public and private sector partners from across Ohio and around the world opened the world’s most connected highway in Central Ohio. The 33 Smart Mobility Corridor, a living lab of The Beta District, runs from the City of Dublin on the east end through the City of Marysville, past industry partner Honda's manufacturing and vehicle development operations, and concludes at the gates of the Transportation Research Center (TRC) Inc. in East Liberty, Ohio. Read more at wsdp.iheart.com.

California's Road Usage Charge Pilot Program Stirs Controversy
Vehicle miles traveled and road usage charges are gaining popularity among some elected officials drafting public policies aimed at helping reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In California, the legislature recently passed Senate Bill 339, authored by State Sen. Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco), extending a road usage charge pilot program until Jan. 1, 2027. Read more at thecoastnews.com.

New Law Adjusts Driver’s License Rules for Seniors, Eye Exams, Permit Holders (Colorado)
Colorado seniors now have the permanent ability to renew their driver license or identification card online. The Driver’s License Electronic Renewal By Seniors Act (HB21-1139) will now allow Coloradans ages 66 and older to renew their driver license or ID online at myDMV.Colorado.gov or via the myColorado app. Read more at 9news.com.
‘100 Deadliest Days’: 92 Lives Lost on Idaho Roads
The period dubbed the “100 Deadliest Days” by Idaho’s Office of Highway Safety has come to a close, and a tragic trend continues in the Gem State, according to preliminary data. The OHS, which is under the Idaho Dept. of Transportation, said 92 people died in traffic crashes on Idaho roads from the start of Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. Read more at ktvb.com.

Official: Airport TSA Snag for New Nevada DMV Cards Fixed
The Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles says newly designed state driver’s licenses should no longer cause security snags at airports in most of the U.S. The state’s DMV license redesign contractor assured officials Tuesday that Transportation Security Administration bar code scanners at airports in most of the country had been updated and those in the eastern U.S. will be updated this week, DMV spokesman Kevin Malone said. Read more at usnews.com.

‘No Evidence of Systemic Bias’ When It Comes to Traffic Stops by Washington State Troopers, Study Finds
A study of Washington State Patrol traffic contacts over a four-year period found "no evidence of systemic bias" in decisions by troopers to stop vehicles. However, there are still trends of Hispanic, Native American and Black drivers being searched at higher rates than white drivers, according to the study by Washington State University's Division of Governmental Studies and Services. Read more at king5.com.

OTHER NEWS

ADAS Adoption Linked To Other Key Industry Issues, ATRI's Dan Murray Says
Truckers’ acceptance of advanced driver assistance systems is a key element for fleets interested in adopting these technologies, but the industrywide driver shortage presents a challenging consideration, according to American Transportation Research Institute Senior Vice President Dan Murray. Murray presented research findings on ADAS adoption Sept. 14 at American Trucking Associations’ 2021 Technology & Maintenance Council Fall Meeting and Transportation Technology Exhibition. Read more at ttnews.com.

FMCSA Awards $76 Million in CMV Safety Grants
The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration has awarded more than $76 million in grants to states and educational institutions to enhance commercial motor vehicle safety. All 50 states, the District of Columbia, plus the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands are slated to receive federal funds. Read more at ttnews.com.

NTSB Chief: Focus on Road Safety Must Shift To Entire System
The new chairman of the U.S. National Transportation Safety Board wants governments and businesses to change the way they look at highway safety, considering the whole system rather than individual driver behavior...“The current approach, which favors automobiles and punishes only drivers for crashes, is clearly not working,” she said Monday in remarks prepared for a speech to the Governors Highway Safety Association conference in Denver. Read more at abcnews.go.com.
US House Panel Considers Climate Change, Transit Budget Sept. 14
The transportation committee of the U.S. House of Representatives will have a big moment this week. On Sept. 14, the Democratic-led panel is scheduled to consider nearly $60 billion worth of climate change and transit mobility budget proposals that would constitute a significant piece of President Joe Biden’s domestic agenda. Read more at ttnews.com.

Study: Will Electric Vehicles Increase the Severity of Motor Vehicle Injuries?
Occupants in electric vehicles (EVs) and hybrid models are less likely to be injured in a crash than people in similar gas-powered vehicles, according to a new report. Lithium-ion batteries is the primary power source for today’s EVs. This means that these vehicles tend to weigh more than otherwise similar gasoline-powered vehicles. Read more at canadianunderwriter.ca.

The First Electric Pickup Truck Is About To Hit the Market, and It’s Not From Tesla, GM or Ford
Here is a winner in the race to build the first consumer-ready electric pickup truck, and it isn't Tesla, Ford or General Motors. It's Rivian. Who? The startup truck maker's first R1T pickups come off the line in a former Mitsubishi plant in Normal, Illinois on Tuesday, company CEO RJ Scaringe announced in a tweet. Read more at wbaltv.com.

The Investigation Into Tesla Autopilot’s Emergency Vehicle Problem Is Getting Bigger
The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is requesting advanced driver assist data from 12 automakers as it seeks to expand its investigation into Tesla’s Autopilot. The government is probing a dozen incidents involving Teslas crashing into emergency vehicles. Read more at theverge.com.

Vehicle Thefts Are Way Up—Here’s Where the Most Cars Are Getting Stolen
Car theft skyrocketed last year, with the highest rate of stolen cars occurring largely in the western U.S. According to data compiled by the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB), California had the highest number of reported car thefts last year at nearly 188,000 vehicles, followed by Texas at around 94,000 and Florida with 45,000. Read more at marketwatch.com.

Are High-Speed Pursuits Ever Right?
Are high-speed chases worth it? If YouTube is any indication, you can dial up a new terrifying chase from some part of the world almost daily. Police forces are tasked with a seemingly-impossible task: deciding in a moment what will endanger the public more — chasing a suspected criminal, or letting one go. Read more at driving.ca.

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.
In memory of those who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001, and in recognition of the bravery of first responders who answered the call of duty that fateful day, FHP troopers have been authorized during September to wear a special badge commemorating the 20th anniversary of 9/11.

Please #MoveOver-TFC Wright (Post 40) was working in an off-duty capacity on I-75 in Tift Co. TFC Wright’s vehicle was struck from the rear by a tractor-trailer that failed to move over, forcing his vehicle to strike the guardrail. Luckily he only received minor injuries. #gsp
A school bus pickup turned deadly for one family in Breathitt County yesterday. Please remember to practice school bus safety every time you are behind the wheel. Stay alert and watch for pedestrians. kentucky.com/news/local/cri... @kystatepolice @KyDeptofEd

Police: Kentucky man didn’t stop for school bus, hit and killed pedestrian. The driver faces reckless homicide and other charges. kentucky.com

MaineSOS @MESecOfState

This is why we do what we do everyday at the BMV to sign people up to be organ donors. You could save a life. Lyman man searches for kidney donor newscentermaine.com/article/news/h... via @newscentermaine

Lyman man searches for kidney donor. Maine has more registered organ donors than any other New England state, according to the New England Donor Service. Mainer Chad O’Malley needs one. newscentermaine.com
Its National Truck Driver Appreciation Week! This week, we're thanking and recognizing truck drivers for the vital role they play in our country. Be sure to show appreciation to the truck driver in your life!  
#NTDAW2021 #MDOTCares

Our troopers, along with several law enforcement agencies across the state, want to make it easier for drivers to store the information and for law enforcement to see when motorists are reaching for documents.

https://www.mn.gov/dps/
We are proud of our colleague Owen McShane, who discusses his career and recent selection for a lifetime achievement award from @AAMVA in this podcast.

AAMVA @AAMVACo @ Sep 14
Owen McShane, Director of the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, talks about winning the 2021 Lifetime Achievement in Highway Safety (Motor Vehicle Administration) Award in episode 68 of AAMVAcast. aamvcast.podbean.com

VermontDMV @VTDMV

The DMV Online Learner’s Permit Application service has been named a winner in the Center for Digital Government’s 2021 Government Experience Awards. The service won in the category of Project Experience: State Government. govtech.com/cdg/government...
Woah! Why are you racing during your morning commute? No need to hoof it that quick. Just hold your horses & #SlowDown!

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