President Trump Announces Intent to Nominate Ray Martinez to FMCSA Administrator

President Donald J. Trump has announced his intent to nominate Raymond Martinez, Chairman and Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission, to be Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. Mr. Martinez is serving his second tenure as member of the AAMVA International Board of Directors and is also a member of the New Jersey State Planning Commission. He manages a State agency with over $1 billion in annual revenue and an operating budget of approximately $330 million. It is charged with the licensing of nearly 6 million drivers and the titling, registration, and inspection of over 6 million vehicles. He previously served as the New York State Commissioner of Motor Vehicles and Chairman of the Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee as well as Deputy Chief of Staff and Special Counsel to the New York State Attorney General. Read the Whitehouse Press Release for more.

AAMVA Joins Donate Life to Celebrate National DMV Appreciation Week

AAMVA joined Donate Life America and Donate Life State Teams in celebrating National DMV Appreciation Week, September 25-29, 2017. The Donate Life Community spent the week saying thank you to Departments of Motor Vehicles (DMVs) and licensing partners across the country for their partnership and commitment to asking the donor registration question to each customer. DMV partners help save and heal lives every day. The Donate Life Community will be showing its appreciation for DMV staff and leadership through national and local events and outreach. AAMVA was honored to receive Donate Life's Inaugural "Quiet Giant" Award at the 2017 AAMVA Annual International Conference. Its tag line is "Looking for opportunities to serve, not for praise" - that truly is how AAMVA employees serve the public through our members. For more information, visit: www.DonateLife.net.

Test Maintenance Subcommittee and IDEC Executive Board Meet

The Test Maintenance Subcommittee and IDEC Executive Board met at AAMVA headquarters on September 19th and 20th to discuss and work on updates to the AAMVA training materials (CDL Examiner Manual, CCE Guide, Emerging/Autonomous Technologies). The group also participated in an educational tour of a motor coach facility to learn more about the emerging/advanced technologies that are impacting how examiners and drivers are testing. The groups are looking at new ways to help state driver licensing agencies tackle the challenges that they are facing.

Hogan Administration Announces Grant To Improve Highway Safety (Maryland)

The Hogan administration announced $11.7 million dollars in highway safety
grants today. The money is all part of the administration's efforts to prevent traffic accidents and save lives on Maryland roads. Read the article at wmdt.com.

REAL IDs Are Coming to New York State
New York State residents will soon have another option when applying for, or renewing their driver licenses. Beginning on October 30, motor vehicle offices will be able to process applications for REAL ID licenses. Read the article at oswegocountytoday.com.

Pennsylvania Reps Work Toward New Vehicle Stickers
License plate stickers may be making a comeback in Pennsylvania, but in a more improved version. Read the article at poconorecord.com.

PennDOT Receives National Awards For Automated Vehicle Leadership, Exemplary Systems In Government
The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) recently received two awards – the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials' (AASHTO) President's Transportation Award for Performance Excellence, and an Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA) Exemplary Systems in Government (ESIG) Award. Read the press release.

PLCB Publishes Info About New ID's (Pennsylvania)
Two days after our story about the PLCB not educating a bar about the new Pennsylvania licenses, the agency has rolled out a solution. Read the article at pahomepage.com.

Uber To Announce It's Leaving Quebec Due To Stricter Government Rules
Just days after the company warned it may leave the province, Radio-Canada has confirmed Uber intends to cease operations in Quebec. Last week, an Uber statement said "new and challenging" proposed provincial regulations "significantly threaten" the company's ability to continue operating. Read the article at cbc.ca.

Georgia Department of Driver Services (DDS)
Commissioner Spencer R. Moore Addresses State Distracted Driving Study Committee
DDS Commissioner Spencer R. Moore on September 25th addressed members of the Georgia House of Representatives Study Committee on Distracted Driving at the committee's second of four scheduled meetings around the state. The committee's first meeting was held on August 28th at the Georgia Capitol in Atlanta. Its next meeting will be held in Savannah on October 10th. Read the press release.

Kentucky State Senator Files Bill to Send Reminders About Expiring Driver's Licenses
Kentucky State Senator Dorsey Ridley (D-Henderson) filed legislation on Wednesday to reinstate sending reminders through the mail to alert drivers when their licenses, permits, or identification cards are about to expire. Read the article at tristatehomepage.com.

1 in 9 Licensed North Carolina Drivers Suspended, But Not For Bad Driving
Close to 1 million North Carolinians have suspended driver's licenses not because of dangerous driving, but because they owe the courts system money or failed to show up for trial. Read the article at wral.com.

Department of Safety and Homeland Security and Donate Life Tennessee Celebrate DMV Employees For Their Work Saving Lives
Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam has designated September 25-29 as National Department of Motor Vehicles week in Tennessee. Read the article at tennesseestate.gov.
How to Correct Title and Brand Data on the Central Site

Dallas-Fort Worth Region Plots Practical Course for Autonomous Vehicles (Texas)
In his self-described “department of one,” Thomas Bamonte is steering the Dallas-Fort Worth metro region toward a place that positions north Texas to be a leader in autonomous vehicle technology and its corresponding public policy. Read the article at govttech.com.

Kansas Revenue Secretary Says Driver’s License IT Project On Track For 2018 Launch
Kansas Revenue Secretary Sam Williams assured lawmakers Friday that the state’s new driver’s license system is on course for a smooth rollout at the start of 2018, despite auditor concerns to the contrary. Read the article at kcur.

New Licensing System Issues Aired At Hearings (Minnesota)
Some drivers and vehicle owners are getting great deals on vehicle tabs after being stopped for expired tabs these days, thanks to “bugs” in the new Minnesota Licensing and Registration System (MNLARS) project. Read the article at nujournal.com.

Missouri Asks Feds For Extension On REAL ID Law
Missouri has formally asked the federal government to give officials until March 2019 to begin rolling out new, more secure driver’s licenses. Read the article at stltoday.com.

Wisconsin’s Graduated Driver Licensing Law Has Changed The Way Teens Travel, But How?
Becoming a safe, skilled driver takes lots of practice behind the wheel. I mean, think about just how long it can take a child to learn to play a sport or instrument. But driving a car is different for teens -- because the stakes are high and the risks are real. Read the article at fox6now.com.

Study: Strict ID Laws Deterred Voters In Wisconsin
A new study found that 11.2 percent of voters in two counties were discouraged from voting in the 2016 election because of restrictive voter-ID laws. Read the article at nymag.com.

British Columbia Eyes Stricter Distracted Driving Penalties As Collisions Surge
The B.C. government is considering imposing stricter penalties on distracted drivers as collisions across the province continue to surge. Read the article at cbc.ca.

After 20 Years, California’s Whale Tail License Plates Remain One Of State’s Most Successful Environmental Programs Ever
What started as a simple picture of a whale’s tail emblazoned on a specialized California license plate decades ago has morphed into one of the most successful environmental programs in the state. The Whale Tail license plate — celebrating its 20th anniversary — continues to be popular among motorists. Read the article at sgvtribune.com.

New Gender Category ‘X’ Awaits Governor Brown’s Decision (California)
This is the time of year when Californians with a vested interest in particular pieces
of legislation wring their hands and wait. Hundreds of bills now sit on the notoriously unpredictable Gov. Jerry Brown's desk for a signature that will turn them into law, or a big fat veto. Read the article at sfchronicle.com.

'Platoons' Of Autonomous Freightliner Trucks Will Drive Across Oregon
Most of the self-driving truck attention has revolved around Tesla's much-teased reveal of its EV big rig next month and all the auto companies rushing to introduce their own electric models. But there's another autonomous truck-related race to develop tech and mechanisms to enable the safe travel of extensive convoys of these vehicles, known as 'platooning.' Read the article at engadget.com.

DoT Announces 'Voluntary' Self-Driving Vehicle Safety Guidelines
Hot on the heels of the U.S. House of Representatives' unanimous passage of the SELF-DRIVE Act, intended to speed development of self-driving vehicles—those equipped with automated driving systems (ADSs)—the U.S. Department of Transportation (DoT) has released its Automated Driving Systems: A Vision for Safety publication, containing numerous safety guidelines and procedures applicable to all entities involved in designing and marketing ADSs. Read the article at iotjournal.com.

Driver's Licenses To Go Digital In South Australia
South Australians will have the option to hold digital driver's licences starting next month, the state government announced last week. Read the article at zdnet.com.

21 Months After Learning Of Problem, Mazda Recalls 58,000 Vehicles
Mazda is recalling about 58,000 of its 2015-16 Mazda6 models because a short circuit could cause the air bags to be deactivated and power-assisted steering to be lost, according to a report the automaker filed with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Read the article at forbes.com.

Report: Millions in U.S. Without Driver's License Due to Unpaid Fees
A report out says Charlottesville's Legal Aid Justice Center reveals millions of people nationwide are without a driver's license because they can't pay court fees and fines. The report "Driven by Dollars" finds 43 states and the District of Columbia suspend licenses due to unpaid court debt. Read the article at nbc29.com.

U.S. Senators Announce Deal On Self-Driving Car Legislation
Two U.S. senators said late on Wednesday that they had reached a bipartisan deal on legislation aimed at easing hurdles to getting self-driving cars to drivers. Read the article at reuters.com.

Rural Motorists Wear Seat Belts Less, Die More
Past city lights and the glow of suburban strip malls, America's roads get dark, lonely, and deadlier. Fewer traffic lights and stop signs mean there's more room to speed. Read the article at philly.com.

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!***
Congratulations to all the winners of @MassDOT’s Safe Streets Smart Trips high school video contest!

NYS DMV @nysdmv  | View the Tweet
If you’re drunk, coffee doesn’t make you sober. Use the Have a Plan app to get home safely.  http://bit.ly/1oK1XJw  #NationalCoffeeDay

DelawareDMV @DelawareDMV  | View the Tweet

From our self-service kiosk, drive thru window, to all the online options DMV has to offer we want to save you time for what really matters.

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