Combined Standing Committees Meet
AAMVA's Driver, Law Enforcement, and Vehicle standing committees came together last week in Arlington, Virginia, for the Combined Standing Committees Meeting. AAMVA's first in-person member meeting since February 2020 included participation by some committee members who joined virtually. Each committee gave a report on their accomplishments over the past year and gave an update on the big projects they'll be tackling in the coming year. The committees also brainstormed ideas for topics at the 2022 Workshop and Law Institute in Orlando, Florida. Visit our Flickr Page for photos of the meeting!

Region 3 Conference Registration Open---Earlybird Deadline 10/26
Registration is now open for the 2021 Region 3 Conference, November 16-18 in Indianapolis, Indiana. This unique opportunity provides AAMVA members with a collaborative environment to discuss relevant driver license, motor vehicle, and law enforcement issues. As with every AAMVA conference, the ability to network is one of the most beneficial experiences, and this year's Region 3 Conference provides several networking opportunities, as well as interactive learning opportunities. Jurisdiction attendees will learn about the successes and challenges of others, share ideas, build relationships, and discover the many products and services provided by our industry partners that can assist in your mission. Industry attendees will have the opportunity to meet with key players in the driver license, motor vehicle, and law enforcement arenas. Visit the 2021 Region 3 Conference website for more information and to register online today!

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

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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.

- [As E-Scooters and E-Bikes Proliferate, Safety Challenges Grow](#)
- [Don’t fall for this scam offering to put vaccination status on your driver’s license (Florida)](#)
- [Excessive speed identified as factor driving increase in fatal vehicle accidents](#)
- [SGI requiring proof of vaccination or negative test for road tests starting Oct. 25](#)

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

**REGION 1 NEWS**

**Delaware’s New Impaired-Driving Simulator Unveiled**
Lt. Gov. Bethany Hall-Long accidentally let an errant word slip after a pickup truck pulled across the road in front of her Thursday, leading to a nasty collision. Thankfully, the accident only took place during the launch of Delaware’s first impaired-driving simulator program, where Lt. Gov. Hall-Long took the wheel to see how the device can deter individuals from driving while impaired by alcohol or distracted by a cellphone. [Read more at baytobaynews.com](https://www.baytobaynews.com).

**Rentable Scooters Must Be Locked, New DC Legislation**
States (District of Columbia)
New Washington, D.C. legislation requires all riders to lock up rentable scooters after using them, prompting rider concerns about convenience and a lack of bike rack space. The Council of the District of Columbia began requiring riders to lock rentable scooters to bike racks, scooter corrals, stop signs and parking signs starting Oct. 1. Scooters cannot be locked to private fences, gates, trees, bus stops or any other objects not authorized in the District Department of Transportation’s guidelines. [Read more at thehoya.com](https://www.thehoya.com).

**Hundreds of Fake IDs Turned Over to State Troopers in Nantucket (Massachusetts)**
Nantucket, an island off Cape Cod, had more than 500 fake IDs used this past summer. According to the Massachusetts State Police, more than 500 fraudulent IDs were confiscated at various establishments in Nantucket. They
AAMVA's Regional News for October 15, 2021

NOVEMBER - PDPS

9 | Introduction to the National Driver Register
10 | PDPS Inquiry Transactions
12 | ACD Codes in PDPS

AAMVA offers systems trainings on-demand for members through our new Learning Management System (LMS). Click here to see available courses.

OCTOBER

19 | NMVTIS State Web Interface (SWI) – How to Correct Title and Brand Data on the Central Site
21 | NMVTIS Suspense Resolution for Online States (Web Service Version) – Part 1
21 | Introduction to the 2021 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) for mDL Law Enforcement
26 | NMVTIS State Web Interface (SWI) – Instant Title Verification Using the VIN Search Feature
26 | CSTIMS NG October 31, 2021 Release Webinar
27 | ROOSTR NG October 31, 2021 Release Webinar
28 | NMVTIS Suspense Resolution for Online States (Web Services Version) – Part 2
28 | CDLIS Reports User Guide Webinar

NOVEMBER

2 | NMVTIS State Web Interface (SWI) – Understanding the Administrative Features
4 | NMVTIS Suspense Resolution for Online States (AMIE Version) – Part 1

Do You Still Need an Appointment at NYS DMV, 6 Months Later? (New York)

So you are thinking about heading to the Department of Motor Vehicles, but then you are like, hmmm., “Do I still need an appointment?” While the correct answer is pretty much, yes if you would like to complete a transaction in person. You should be warned, the time between when you schedule your appointment and actually heading to the DMV for your appointment, is taking approximately 4 to 5 weeks. Read more at 961thebreeze.com

How Insurers Are Changing Their Treatment of Distracted Driving (Nova Scotia)

Some Nova Scotia motorists who are caught using their wireless handheld device while driving could face steeper hikes to their auto insurance premiums. In a decision released Oct. 4, the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board approved the Facility Association’s rate filing, which includes an increase – from 15% to 25% – in the surcharge for the first major conviction. Read more at canadianunderwriter.ca

Philadelphia Passes Bill Prohibiting Police From Pulling Drivers Over For Certain Low-Level Offenses (Pennsylvania)

On Thursday, Philadelphia became the first city in the country to pass a driver equality bill. Police officers will soon be prohibited from pulling over drivers for low-level offenses like broken tail lights. The legislation is aimed at preventing racial discrimination in traffic stops. Read more at philadelphia.cbslocal.com

The DMV Still Isn’t Issuing Vanity Plates, and It’s Unclear When Applications Will Reopen (Rhode Island)

Got a creative idea for a vanity license plate? You’ll have to wait a while before you can put it on your car. The Department of Motor Vehicles stopped accepting applications for new vanity plates in February, after a federal judge ruled that the department’s policy for denying potentially offensive plates was unconstitutional. Eight months later, it’s still impossible to get a new vanity plate, and it’s unclear when that will change. The DMV’s rules previously stated that vanity plates could be rejected if the messages “might carry connotations offensive to good taste and decency.” Read more at providencejournal.com

REGION 2 NEWS

State Leaders Work to Reduce DMV Wait Times (Mississippi)

Gov. Tate Reeves held a press conference Tuesday with Department of Public Safety Commissioner Sean Tindell to discuss the success of the Skip the Line program. It’s now being nationally recognized by the Center for Digital Government. “One thing that I do believe is that most, if not all, Mississippians and even most Americans can agree on is that we all dislike having to wait in line,” Reeves said. The program allows residents to book appointments ahead of time, skip lines when they arrive, and complete other tasks online. Since its launch about a year ago, Reeves said more than 330,000 appointments have been booked using the tool, and more than 94,000 addresses have been updated online. Read more at wlox.com

https://www.magnetmail.net/design/preview.cfm?version=html&message_id=20925672&contentType=MailMessage
Texas is Auctioning Off Coveted Vanity License Plates

We found your next impulse buy, Texas. Dozens of highly sought vanity license plate messages are up for grabs, but you'll have to outbid competitors to get the one you want. MyPlates, which sells official custom license plates to Texas drivers, is auctioning off 50 number and letter combinations that the company claims are some of the most popular requests. Bidding starts at $500 for some and $1,000 for others. After going live Monday, eight license plates are already attracting bids as of Tuesday afternoon. Read more at chron.com.

Urging Vehicle Owners Again to Get Recalled Takata Airbags Fixed (Virginia)

The Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles says there are still a lot of potentially dangerous recalled airbags on Virginia's roads. According to a release from SafeAirbags, more than 14 million unrepaired recalled Takata airbags are still out there across the country. The organization is working with manufacturers to try and notify vehicle owners about the safety recall that was initially issued nearly a decade ago. Vehicle owners are being urged once again to have any affected vehicles repaired immediately in order to prevent potentially serious injuries or even death. Read more at cbs19news.com.

Indiana BMV Announces Temporary Branch Closures Because of Staff Shortages

Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles Commissioner Peter L. Lacy announced the BMV will temporarily close eight branches for the month of October due to a continued staffing shortage. Temporarily closed will be branches in Brazil, Sullivan, Plymouth, West Lafayette, Indianapolis-North Meridian and Midtown, Tipton, Danville and New Albany. Employees of temporarily closed branches will be reassigned to support nearby locations for the month. October is the second month the BMV has temporarily closed branches due to an employee shortage. Over the past 30 days, the BMV has received an increased number of Hoosiers applying for positions. Branch teams are in the process of hiring and onboarding multiple applicants to fulfill customer service vacancies in locations throughout the state, according to an Indiana BMV news release. Read more at reporter.net.

Michigan House Passes GOP-Led Bills to Make Voter ID Laws Stricter

The Michigan House passed a controversial election bill Thursday that would add steps for voters without an ID and ban election officials from sending unsolicited absentee ballot applications. Both bills were approved Thursday afternoon in a 56-51 party-line vote. Together, SB 303 and SB 304 would require voters to take additional steps to have their ballot count if they don’t have an ID. The other bill in the package, HB 5007, which was already passed by the chamber, would eliminate fees for getting or renewing an official state personal ID card. Read more at mlive.com.

Ohio BMV Announces Self-Service Kiosks for Vehicle Registration Renewals

The Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles announced Wednesday new self-service kiosks allowing drivers to renew vehicle registrations on their own time. Lt. Governor Jon Husted and Ohio BMV Registrar Charlie Norman announced the pilot launch of kiosks at nine locations across the state. Drivers can use the self-service machines to renew vehicle registration and print off cards and validation stickers. Read more at wcpo.com.
General Motors Making Moves Towards Electric Vehicles, But is Ohio’s Infrastructure Ready For the Switch?
General Motors is looking to ramp up revenues with a push towards electric vehicles, but how far does the infrastructure for such improvements lag? Fortunately, upgrading our infrastructure, doesn’t necessarily mean residents will be paying more in taxes. The Ohio Department of Transportation and Ohio Turnpike Commission both say plans have been in the budgets for a while now to help fund the upgrades. Read more at news5cleveland.com.

Wisconsin DMV Releases New Special License Plate Options
Wisconsin drivers can choose two new license plate options Monday, the state Department of Transportation Division of Motor Vehicles announced. The first option recognizes Elkhart Lake’s Road America, the four-mile, 14-circuit race course that holds over 500 events each season. The plate can be ordered for a $15 issuance fee. The second plate, honoring the nonprofit Versiti, is meant to raise awareness for blood health. The organization works to improve patient outcomes through donations, innovation in science and medicine. Read more at nbc15.com.

Drivers Debate Rideshare Legislation (California)
Labor activists, elected officials and drivers for ridesharing services like Uber and Lyft joined together on the steps of the State House last Wednesday in vocal opposition to legislation introduced earlier this year that would change the employment structure of app-based drivers. The action was immediately followed by a virtual hearing on the matter. Being scrutinized in particular was House Bill 1234 and its accompanying ballot question which designates drivers as independent contractors rather than employees protected under certain Massachusetts labor laws. Read more at baystatebanner.com.

Umberg Measure Tackling Catalytic Converter Theft Signed Into Law (California)
Senator Thomas J. Umberg (D-Santa Ana) announced that his Senate Bill (SB) 366, which addresses a massive spike in catalytic converter thefts and extends California’s Vehicle Dismantling Strike Team, was signed into law by Governor Gavin Newsom on Wednesday. Read more at oc-breeze.com.

Bay Area Grant Program Offers $9500 to Trade Your Gasoline Car for an EV (California)
We might have a new champion for the best place to live if you want to maximize the amount of government incentives you can get when you buy an electric vehicle. While everyone in the U.S. could be eligible for the federal tax credit worth up to $7500 for a new EV, states and cities have been offering various benefits in addition to the federal credit, and the revived incentive package from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) in California could reduce the price some residents pay for a new or used EV by a serious $9500. Read more at caranddriver.com.

Should Older Drivers Surrender Their Driver’s Licenses At a Certain Age? (Utah)
Should older drivers in Utah be forced to take a driving test at a certain age or surrender their driver’s license? Or should the driving test be given on an individual basis based on ability, not age? A state senator argues his side in the debate. A 70-year-old man is spotted by police over the weekend driving
on the wrong side of the Redwood Road with no lights at 2 a.m. Republican state Sen. Todd Weller of Woods Cross joins Dave Noriega and Debbie Dujanovic to discuss unsafe older drivers and how to get them off the road. Read more at kslnewsradio.com.

OTHER NEWS

US Regulators Seek Answers from Tesla Over Lack of Recall
U.S. safety investigators want to know why Tesla didn't file recall documents when it updated Autopilot software to better identify parked emergency vehicles, escalating a simmering clash between the automaker and regulators. Read more at abcnews.go.com.

Study Says Uber and Lyft Worse for the Environment Than Taking Your Own Car
The study, completed by scientists from Carnegie Mellon University and published by the American Chemical Society, says the issues arise from the fact that ride-share drivers spend lots of time riding around without carrying passengers - known as ‘deadheading’ in trucking and commercial parlance. In fact, a report from Uber and Lyft themselves in 2019 found that drivers were deadheading around 40% of the time they were on duty in six cities across the United States. And that deadhead mileage not only increased fuel consumption and added to greenhouse gas emissions by about 20%, it also ramped up costs linked to traffic congestion, crashes, and noise pollution by approximately 60% as well. Read more at autoevolution.com.

State Regulation Fosters Autonomous Vehicle Development
One morning, two tractor trailers drove away from a loading dock in Pittsburgh. A human drove the leading truck, and the one tailing behind autonomously followed along using cameras, connectivity technology, and automated driving systems. Over the course of two days, this “truck platoon” made it to Detroit and back to Pittsburgh, stopping only to unload its cargo at a food bank. In the distant future, truck platooning and autonomous vehicle technology promise greater efficiency and mobility. In the short term, autonomous vehicle testing creates local jobs. Read more at theregreview.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.
Colorado State Patrol
@CSP_News

The rules of winter and snow driving haven’t changed since the last time it hit the ground: slow down! Be patient! Give yourself extra room! We got this!

Snow is coming!
Snow is coming!

How do I drive again?!

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VirginiaDMV
@VirginiaDMV

Phones plus driving equal a recipe for disaster. Stop the texts. Stop the wrecks.
#PhoneDown #DistractedDriving #ArriveAlive

There are some mistakes even autocorrect can’t fix.

Ditch distractions and focus on the road ahead.
#ARRIVEALIVE
NH Office of Highway Safety
@nh_chs

Kim and LuAnn of the #NH Office of Highway Safety participate in the @NewHampshireDOT District 2 Safety Day!
#safetyfirst #teamwork

AAA Kansas News 📸
@AAAKansasNews

AAA Survey: 92% of Kansas first responders/roadside workers have had at least one near miss incident or felt their life threatened - 24% saying it happens ‘routinely’ - because motorists do not #SlowDownMoveOver, despite the fact that Kansas law requires them to do so.

SLOW DOWN MOVE OVER AAA