AAMVA's Brian Ursino Appointed to Lifesavers Board of Directors

On October 13, 2021, Brian Ursino, AAMVA's Director of Law Enforcement, was appointed to the Lifesavers Conference, Inc., Board of Directors. Lifesavers, Inc. is a nonprofit organization that sponsors and oversees the annual Lifesavers Conference on Highway Safety Priorities. In his Board position, Brian will help govern the organization to ensure the success of the annual Lifesavers Conference.

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

- Selling Cars in the Era of the Chip Shortage: Online Chats and No More Hagglng
- Trucking Industry Now Short 80,000 Drivers
- U.S. Trucking Industry Disruptions To Last as Long as Pandemic Persists - Buttigieg
- ATA Outlines Concerns on How Vaccine Mandate May Affect Trucking
- The White House Has Considered Deploying the National Guard to Combat the Supply-chain Crisis, but It's Reportedly Unlikely
COVID-19 | REGION 1 NEWS COVERAGE

- PA State Leaders Work To Address School Bus Driver Shortage (Pennsylvania)

COVID-19 | REGION 2 NEWS COVERAGE

- Florida DMV Offices Return to Appointment-only After Walk-ins Caused Overwhelming Lines
- 'I Feel Like I’m Doing Something That Actually Matters' Says North Texas Mom Who Became Truck Driver Amid Nationwide Shortage
- Technology Helping Melissa [Independent School District] Retain School Bus Drivers During Nationwide Shortage (Texas)

COVID-19 | REGION 3 NEWS COVERAGE

- As Traffic Fatalities Jump in Minnesota, Officials Tap Employers for Help

COVID-19 | REGION 4 NEWS COVERAGE

- Nearly 40% of California State Workers Are Unvaccinated Against COVID Despite Newsom Order
- Fact Check: California Trucking Regulations Aren’t To Blame for Cargo Backlog
- High Schoolers Are Training To Drive 18-Wheelers Amid a Shortage of Truck Drivers (California)
- Denver Motor Vehicle and Title Offices Closed for Two Days To Address Mail Backlog (Colorado)
- Nevada Trucking Leaders Propose Solutions to Supply Chain Crunch

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

REGION 1 NEWS

%&*@! Maine Bans Vulgar Vanity License Plates
Removing the flipping obscenities from license plates on Maine’s roads and highways isn’t going to happen overnight, even though a law banning such profanities in a state where such regulation has been unusually lax goes into effect Monday. Read more at foxnews.com.

DMV Issues Over 300 Tickets in Crackdown on Underage Drinking (New York)
The New York State Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) has announced that over 300 people have received citations for the use of fake identification to purchase alcohol. DMV also seized nearly 300 fake IDs. Read more at wivb.com.

REGION 2 NEWS

Florida to Launch Digital Driver’s Licenses as Soon as November
Florida hopes to launch its digital driver’s licenses next month, an initiative it has been working on for years...the ID’s set to release in mid-November by the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles will allow drivers to verify and carry a digital version of their identification on their smartphone. Read more at wfla.com.
Campaign Aims To Reduce Speed-Related Crashes in Tennessee
On Friday, the Tennessee Highway Safety Office launches its speeding prevention campaign called “Slow Down Tennessee” in partnership with the Tennessee Department of Safety & Homeland Security, the Tennessee Highway Patrol, the Tennessee Department of Transportation, AAA, the Students Against Destructive Decisions, and local law enforcement agencies. Read more at newschannel5.com.

Self-Driving Trucks Ready To Make FedEx Deliveries in Texas
A self-driving tech company, a truck manufacturer and FedEx have teamed up to test autonomous vehicle deliveries between Dallas and Houston in Texas. The tests will have human safety drivers. Read more at govtech.com.

Former Moline Businessman Sentenced to 41 Months in Connection With Scam to Rollback Odometers at Used Car Dealership (Iowa)
On Tuesday, October 11, 2021, Bradley Shane McCorkle, age 51, formerly of Moline, Illinois, was sentenced by United States District Court Chief Judge John A. Jarvey to 41 months in prison for conspiracy to commit wire fraud in connection with a scheme to alter and rollback odometer mileage on used cars purchased by his Moline car dealership. Read more at justice.gov.

Ohio Fixes New License Plate After First Attempt Doesn’t Fly
Ohio’s new license plate “honors our past,” Gov. Mike DeWine said before unveiling it Thursday morning. But soon after, the state had to fix a historical inaccuracy. Prominently featured on the top of the plate is the Ohio-native Wright Brothers’ first airplane — the Wright Flyer — pulling a red banner that says “Birthplace of Aviation.” Read more at wjtv.com.

ICBC Issues Seasonal Warning to Drivers, Pedestrians (British Columbia)
With the darkest months of the year now upon us, the Insurance Corporation of B.C. is urging drivers to be extra careful on the roads. Half of all pedestrian fatalities in B.C. are recorded between October and January, according to ICBC. In the Southern Interior alone, approximately 150 pedestrians are injured in 230 crashes annually. Read more at pentictonherald.ca.
Want Your DMV Fee Refund? Be Prepared To Drive to the DMV (Nevada)
Nevada motorists looking to recoup a wrongfully assessed $1-per-transaction surcharge at the state DMV might weigh collecting that refund against what it could cost in gas to obtain it. Refunds on the fee, which state courts nullified after a lawsuit, will only be processed in person under a plan approved by the Legislature’s Interim Finance Committee Thursday. Following approval by the court, processing refunds could start in December. Read more at reviewjournal.com.

Senate Commerce Panel Approves FMCSA Nominee
The nomination of President Joe Biden’s pick to lead the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration advanced to the floor of the U.S. Senate on Oct. 20. By a vote of 22 to 6, the Senate Commerce Committee, which oversees trucking and freight policies, approved the nomination of Meera Joshi. Read more at ttnews.com.

NHTSA Deputy Steven Cliff to Be Nominated as Administrator
A former California pollution regulator is being nominated to run the nation’s highway safety agency. President Joe Biden on Oct. 19 announced his intention to nominate Steven Cliff, who has served as deputy administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration since February, to become the agency’s administrator. Read more at ttnews.com.

AASHTO Issues Connected, Automated Vehicle Policy Paper
The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials recently published a policy paper outlining the ten key policy principles needed for connected and automated vehicles or CAVs – a paper intended to be a “living document,” reviewed and updated every year to reflect changes in technology and policy. Read more at aashtojournal.org.

Study: Charging up EVs Costs More Than Filling up Gas Tanks
A study from Anderson Economic Group has found that it costs more to charge an electric vehicle than it does to keep a traditional car filled up with gas. The study notes this can change with more infrastructure. Read more at govtech.com.

With EVs on the Way, What Comes After the Gas Tax?
Gas-guzzlers, your days are numbered. This summer the Trudeau government declared it will ban the sale of all light-duty gasoline-powered cars and trucks by 2035. Drivers might object, but car manufacturers are already falling in line to make it happen...Unlike in Canada, where most gas taxes disappear into general revenue, U.S. legislation requires that they be spent on road construction and maintenance. Read more at driving.ca.

Keeping Older Drivers Protected on the Road
Highway safety experts have long been concerned about a possible epidemic of accidents and fatalities as people in their 70s, 80s and beyond continued to drive. The children of older drivers have worried along with them, sometimes
going to extremes to commandeer the keys of their aging parents when reasoning fails to get them off the road. Read more at seattletimes.com.

Federal, State Agencies Ramping up Pedestrian Safety Efforts

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the Federal Highway Administration, and state departments of transportation across the country are celebrating October as National Pedestrian Safety Month by strengthening their efforts to improve safety for vulnerable road users. 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.

DC DMV recently received the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators 2021 Customer Convenience Award in recognition of the Districts first Self-Service OBD Emissions Kiosk. Congratulations to our Vehicle Services team on this well-deserved recognition!
Today is School Bus Driver Appreciation Day in Illinois. They take seriously the trust we put in them to get our children to and from school safely every day, and we are grateful for that.

Our very own, Susie Guyer, Chief Communication & Engagement Officer, spoke with @GerryDick about BMV's partnership with @marketingcloud to transform digital engagement for our customers. Listen to @IIB tonight at 7 p.m. on WFYI 1. #IIBTV
#Taunton

New England Donor Services @NEDonorServices · Oct 16

We’d like to thank the city of TauntonMA for their amazing support for organ and tissue donation! NEDS State Relations Manager was joined by Mayor @ShaunaOConnell, @MassRMV leadership and other supporters at an event held earlier this week. #DonateLife ‪#RegisterMe  

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In honor of #NationalTeenDriverSafetyWeek, our employees are taking a road trip down memory lane! Many words may come to mind when you think of your first car, but is “safe” one of them? Talk to your teen about vehicle maintenance and addressing open safety recalls. #MDOTSafety  

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My First Set of Wheels

"This was my first set of wheels - a 1988 Chevy Nova. I bought it used when I was in high school. It didn’t go very fast and it wasn’t all that reliable, but what it represented to me was freedom. Growing up in rural suburbs, I could not get anywhere without a car. I was so excited to have the world open up to me with that little car."

Phil, MDOT MVA Employee
NJMVC Chief Administrator Sue Fulton and Elizabeth mayor Chris Bolliwage, along with local and state officials, today cut the ribbon to celebrate the Grand Opening of the Elizabeth Licensing Center.

DMV employees participated in the #WearPurple came to show support for victims of domestic violence. October is #DomesticViolenceAwarenessMonth.
OSHP Col. Richard S. Fambro joined Ohio Traffic Safety Office Director Felice Moretti today to announce the launch of a new educational program for youth and to encourage parents to discuss the importance of driving safety with their young drivers. More at bit.ly/3vxGVj

Proud to stand with @henrymcmaster, @SC_DMV, @muschollings, @DukeCancer & state leaders for a ceremonial bill signing for "Drivers for a Cure" Special License Plates, proceeds of which will go to support #CancerResearch. Now drivers across SC can join the fight to find a cure.
The Driver Services executive leadership team has been working hard to update planning documents to continue to move the organization forward!

New England Donor Services visited our Rutland office yesterday to thank staff for their efforts in asking about organ and tissue donation. They provided pizza for lunch and noted that 53% of Rutland customers were electing to be organ donors.