AAMVA Legislative Alert: FMCSA Issues Minimum Training Requirements for Entry-Level CMV Operators Final Rule

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has issued a final rule establishing new minimum training standards for individuals:

- Applying for their commercial driver’s license (CDL) for the first time,
- Seeking to upgrade their CDL,
- Seeking a hazardous materials (H) endorsement for the first time,
- Seeking a passenger endorsement (P) for the first time, or
- Seeking a school bus endorsement (S) for the first time.

These individuals are subject to entry-level driver training (ELDT) requirements and must complete a prescribed program of instruction by an approved entity before taking their CDL test. AAMVA anticipates the process will work similar to the medical certification process where FMCSA will transmit the necessary information to the state driver licensing agencies (SDLAs) who will place the information on the driver record prior to proceeding with testing. View the December 9th AAMVA Legislative Alert to learn more about the final rule and what it means for your jurisdiction.

NMVTIS Business Rules Working Group Seeks to Fill Three Vacancies

The NMVTIS Business Rules Working Group currently has three vacancies to fill. The Working Group is seeking one jurisdiction member with experience in the NMVTIS business process, and two jurisdiction members with NMVTIS information technology experience. Eligible applicants will be expected to attend in-person and virtual meetings.

If you are interested in volunteering for this Working Group, please complete the application and submit to committees@aamva.org no later than February 1, 2017. If you have any questions regarding the Working Group, please visit the group’s web page, or contact Casey Garber.

Connecticut DMV, AAA at an Impasse Over License Renewals for General Public

The Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles and one of the state’s two AAA franchises have reached an impasse on efforts to reach a new contract to allow the automotive club to continue providing license renewals and issuing identification cards for the agency. Read the full story at NHRegister.com.

Marijuana Use Rising, Ontario Survey Finds
With Ottawa poised to legalize recreational marijuana next year, researchers are keeping a close eye on use of the drug, which has been steadily trending upward over the last couple of decades. Read the full story at WoodstockSentinelReview.com.

**Ottawa Expecting ‘Dramatic’ Surge in Pot Tests for Drivers but Shrinking Labs may not be able to Meet Demand (Ontario)**

The federal government is expecting a deluge of police requests for marijuana tests once cannabis is legalized and is concerned about whether Canada's shrinking number of forensic labs will be able to handle the surge. Read the full story at NationalPost.com.

**PennDOT Secretary Leslie S. Richards Recognized in Two Women in Business International Awards Categories**

Based on PennDOT's overall accomplishments this year, Secretary Leslie S. Richards was recently honored as Female Innovator of the Year for a Government or Non Profit with 2,500 employees or more and Female Executive of the Year in the same category by the international Stevie Awards for Women in Business. Read the PennDot press release for more details.

**Law Enforcement Officials Awaiting Effects of Change to DUI Law (Pennsylvania)**

Months after a U.S. Supreme Court ruling that eased penalties for motorists who refuse to have their blood tested for drugs or alcohol, law enforcement officials in Allegheny County and elsewhere are waiting to see how the landmark decision will affect the outcome of certain DUI cases. Read the full story at Post-Gazette.com.

**UVA Law Team Hopes to Put Brakes on Driver’s License Suspensions Due to Debt (Virginia)**

Damian Stinnie, a 24-year-old Charlottesville resident with lymphoma, couldn’t drive to work. He was well enough physically, but his driver’s license had been suspended and his personal debts, which included more than $1,000 in traffic fines, mounted. The court didn’t have a repayment plan that he could afford. Then he became seriously ill, and he fell into homelessness. Read the full story at News.Virginia.Edu.

**Chicago DMV Instructor Charged with Sexually Abusing Woman**

Authorities say a state Department of Motor Vehicles instructor is charged with sexually abusing a woman during a driving test in Chicago. Read the full story at STLToday.com.

**KHP’s Newest Troopers to Graduate from Training Academy (Kansas)**

The newest class of Kansas Highway Patrol troopers will hit a milestone in their careers, as they graduate from the Kansas Highway Patrol Training Academy in Salina this Thursday, December 8. The Patrol’s 34 newest troopers will then enter the field training phase of our training program. This is the largest trooper class to graduate since 38 new troopers graduated in 2002. Read the KHP press release.
The public is entitled to see virtually all police dash-cam recordings. The Ohio Supreme Court ruled Tuesday. In a 7-0 decision, the high court rejected the Ohio State Highway Patrol's attempt to keep all such recordings secret.

Lowe Named Interim Iowa DOT Director
Mark Lowe has been appointed interim director of the Iowa Department of Transportation by Gov. Terry Branstad, replacing Paul Trombino, who has resigned to seek new employment. Read the full story at DesMoinesRegister.com.

Ohio Lawmaker Wants to Ease Rule on Missing Front License Plate
A Democratic state lawmaker wants to make the failure to display a front license plate on vehicles a secondary offense. Sen. Cecil Thomas (D-Cincinnati) told the Ohio Senate’s Transportation, Commerce and Labor Committee Thursday that the proposal would require additional traffic offenses for officers to stop drivers. Read the full story on the-news-leader.com.

Controversial Pro-Life License Plate Approved (Wisconsin)
The state’s first pro-life license plate will soon be available for purchase. The proposed special plate by Choose Life Wisconsin, Inc., a corporation formed by Wisconsin Family Action and Pro-Life Wisconsin, was approved on Nov. 30. The state Division of Motor Vehicles received 26 objections to the proposal. Read the full story at PostCrescent.com.

Drug-Related Traffic Crashes in Wisconsin Soar, Departments of Justice and Transportation Co-sponsor New Ads Raising Awareness
Last year, 149 people were killed in drug-related traffic crashes in Wisconsin. This is a nearly a 200 percent increase over the previous decade, according to Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) statistics. View the press release for more information. Read the DOT press release.

New Alert Tool Enhances ICBC’s Fight Against Insurance Fraud (British Columbia)
ICBC is boosting its efforts to fight fraud following the first results from a new high-tech tool which will help identify and target fraudulent claims early in the claims process. Read the ICBC press release.

Nvidia is Now Clear to Test Self-Driving Vehicles on California Roads
The California Department of Motor Vehicles posts a list of all the companies and entities cleared to test self-driving vehicles on public roads in the state, and that list has a new member: Nvidia. The graphics card-maker also builds processing units for use in autonomous driving systems, including those capable of deep learning. Read the full story at TechCrunch.com.

Proposal to Allow Roadside Testing for Marijuana Use is Revived (California)
A month after Californians legalized recreational marijuana use, Assemblyman Tom Lackey (R-Palmdale) introduced a bill Monday that would allow law enforcement to use roadside drug testing devices to check for driving under the influence. A former sergeant with the California Highway Patrol, Lackey said his proposal takes on new urgency because of the passage of Proposition 64 on Nov. 8. Read the full story at LATimes.com.
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**Fallen Heroes License Plate Program May End (Colorado)**

Members of the Mesa County Sheriff's Office say they routinely receive questions from the community, on how to support law enforcement and their families, specifically those who have died in the line of duty. [Read the full story at WesternSlopeNow.com](https://www.magnetmail.net/design/preview.cfm?message_id=13766242).

**Colorado State Patrol Cadet Graduation**

The Colorado State Patrol is proud to announce the graduation of 15 cadets to the rank of Trooper. Graduation will take place Friday, Dec. 9 at 10:00 AM. The ceremony is in the gymnasium of the CSP Academy and the public is invited to attend. [Read the full story at I-70Scout.com](https://www.magnetmail.net/design/preview.cfm?message_id=13766242).

**Attorney General Laxalt Announces Grand Jury Indictment against Two Defendants for Investment Scam (Nevada)**

Today, Nevada Attorney General Adam Paul Laxalt announced that Shane Allan Unruh, 43, and Brian James Oney, 46, were indicted by the Clark County Grand Jury on 12 felony charges for convincing multiple individuals to purchase vehicles purportedly for use by Uber drivers. The defendants are charged with securities fraud and theft, all felony offenses. The alleged scam occurred between September and December 2015. [Read the AG's press release](https://www.magnetmail.net/design/preview.cfm?message_id=13766242).

**Padilla Defends Rollout of Real ID System Amid Broad Criticism (New Mexico)**

State Taxation and Revenue Secretary Demesia Padilla on Monday defended her department's rollout of the state's new two-tiered driver's license system, which has been criticized by immigrant-rights groups, drivers and others as overreaching, confusing and frustrating. [Read the full story at SantaFeNewMexican.com](https://www.magnetmail.net/design/preview.cfm?message_id=13766242).

**AAA Study Finds Risks of Drowsy Driving Comparable to Drunk Driving**

New research shows how deadly it can be to drive when you're tired. The AAA study found drivers who miss two to three hours of sleep a day more than quadruple their risk of getting in a crash, compared to drivers who sleep for seven hours. [Read the full story at CBSNews.com](https://www.magnetmail.net/design/preview.cfm?message_id=13766242).

**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](https://www.magnetmail.net/design/preview.cfm?message_id=13766242).

Check out recent @AAMVAConnection Twitter action.

***Thank you for the @AAMVAConnection mentions!***

UTRC @UTRCRegion2 | View the Tweet
Automated vehicles panel moderated by @Matt_Daus with @ydanis @SenMartyGolden michael Replogle @NYC_DOT, Rodney Stiles @nyctaxi @NYUTANDON

ABC13News @ABC13News | View the Tweet
The government is in the process of establishing rules for the safe testing and deployment of autonomous cars. https://t.co/789oslKJsK

KS Highway Patrol @kshighwaypatrol | View the Tweet
Congratulation to our newest @kshighwaypatrol TROOPERS

#ServiceCourtesyProtection
#KHPclass56

NTSB @NTSB | View the Tweet

Vice Chairman Dinh-Zarr leads a panel discussion w/youth safety activists @safekids Safe Roads Safe Kids Summit #ProtectKids

Responsibility.org @goFAAR | View the Tweet
We joined @SHAQ and law enforcement officers on Capitol Hill for a special briefing on #impaireddriving. Check out our full recap!

ABC13News @ABC13News | View the Tweet

Companies can now test self-driving cars on Michigan public roads without a driver or steering wheel.