AAMVA At U.S. Access Board/International Parking Institute
On Wednesday, December 6, 2017, Brian Ursino, AAMVA Director of Law Enforcement attended a meeting of the U.S. Access Board/International Parking Institute in Washington, DC, and presented an update on the progress being made by the AAMVA Disability Placard/License Plate Fraud Working Group. This Working Group is developing a document outlining best practices in disability placard and license plate issuance processes as well as post-issuance fraud and violation enforcement. The Working Group anticipates publishing in August 2018.

AMVA Awards 2018 - December 22 Deadline Approaches
The AAMVA Awards Program recognizes members of the motor vehicle and law enforcement community by honoring individuals, teams, and organizations who have committed their time and resources to the following categories: Safety, Service, Security, and Public Affairs & Consumer Education. The submission deadline for all entries (including Martha Irwin Award nominations) is December 22, 2017. Visit the AAMVA Awards Program online for more details about the awards program, and to download the submission and nomination packet. For more information, please contact Jessica Hill at awards@aamva.org.

MVC is Implementing New Requirements for Transportation Network Companies (New Jersey)
The New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) is implementing new requirements for transportation network companies (TNCs), which use a digital network to connect a rider to a driver for a prearranged ride. These new requirements are mandated by the Transportation Network Company Safety and Regulatory Act, which establishes safety and insurance requirements for TNCs while allowing for continued advances in the transportation industry. Read the press release.

Pennsylvania Drivers Can Get Real ID Documents Early
PennDOT has launched a public awareness campaign for people who want a Real ID-compliant driver’s license when they’re available in 2019. Read more at wkbn.com.

Senate Panel OKs Tough New DUI Standards, Targets Repeat Offenders (Pennsylvania)
The Senate Transportation Committee, chaired by Sen. John C. Rafferty Jr., R-44, unanimously passed Senate Bill 961 to address egregious Driving Under the Influence (DUI) offenses - including persistent DUI offenders. The bill now goes to the full Senate for consideration. Read the article at pottsmerc.com.
Quebec Proposes Heftier Fines For Distracted Driving, Booster Seats Til Age 9
Drivers and cyclists, get ready: there may be new and tougher provisions in proposed revisions to Quebec’s Highway Safety Code. The bill, which aims to crack down on dangerous driving, was tabled on the last day of the fall session at the National Assembly Friday. Read the article at cbc.ca

Minoli Named Interim DMV Commissioner (Vermont)
A longtime Vermont state worker has been named interim commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles. Gov. Phil Scott says Wanda Minoli is assuming the role immediately. She replaces Robert Ide, who is retiring after eight years. Minoli has been a state employee for 32 years. She began her career with the state in 1985. She has worked as the deputy commissioner of DMV since 2016. In 2012, she was appointed deputy commissioner of the Department of Buildings and General Services. Minoli will serve until a permanent appointment can be made. Read the article at wcax.com

Georgia Driver Services Commissioner Announces Senior Leadership Changes
Georgia Department of Driver Services (DDS) Commissioner Spencer R. Moore announced today changes to the Department’s Senior Leadership Team. The changes include the promotions of three DDS team members and an opportunity for each to broaden their leadership experience and bring a new and re-energized perspective to their new assignments. "I congratulate these three individuals who are all dedicated Team Members and who daily exemplify their commitment to DDS and the citizens of the State," commented Commissioner Moore. Read the press release.

Taking A Flight Will Require Better ID; North Carolina Gears Up
It might feel real to you, but as far as the federal government is concerned, the drivers license in your wallet is on its way to becoming a worthless piece of plastic. Read the article at citizen-times.com

Secretary of State Launches 'Be Registered and Be Ready to Vote' Campaign To Educate Public On Voter ID Law (West Virginia)
The Secretary of State announced the launch Thursday of an educational campaign to teach people about the state’s voter identification law. Read the article at register-herald.com

Jesse White Announces Online Services for Disability Placard Holders (Illinois)
Second State in Nation to Provide the Service
Secretary of State Jesse White announced that physicians can now renew their patient’s disability placards online via the office’s website, making Illinois the second state in the nation to provide this vital service to persons with disabilities. Read the press release.

In Response To State Driver's License Law, Minneapolis Looks To Create Its Own Photo ID (Minnesota)
While Minneapolis sees itself as the state's leader on forward-thinking policies, Northfield, not Minneapolis, will be the first city in the state to institute the latest progressive policy trend: creating a municipal photo identification card. The purpose of the ID cards is to offer those who can’t or don’t have traditional forms of identification something that could be used to open bank accounts, cash checks and even rent apartments. Read the article at minnpost.com
Minnesota DOT Begins Winter-Testing Autonomous Shuttle

With a cheery chime, a small, squarish minibus eased forward and tentatively took to the “highway” Tuesday morning, advancing to a top speed of 3 miles per hour in the frigid morning air punctuated by a dash of swirling snow. The road was actually part of the Minnesota Department of Transportation’s MnROAD cold-weather pavement testing facility, a self-contained area in Monticello not open to normal traffic. Read the article at govtech.com.

Lawmakers Say Driving Suspensions Overused, Fines Too High (Ohio)

Ohio lawmakers have accused the state of using driver's license suspensions as an arbitrary punishment for offenses unrelated to driving while burying people under a pile of fees and fines. The state Legislature is considering multiple bills that could reinstate limited privileges for some suspended drivers and help people avoid steep license reinstatement fees. Read the article at usnews.com.

Efforts Intensify to Catch Drivers Illegally Parking In Spots For People With Disabilities (California)

“I'm a caregiver, and I go pick things up.” “I can barely walk – I’m in pain.” “I didn't know.” These were only some of the excuses Department of Motor Vehicles investigators heard in November when they set up a sting operation in Sacramento to catch drivers abusing the disabled person parking placards. Read the article at abc10.com.

More Indictments Handed Out For Large California DMV CDL Scheme

Ten more co-conspirators have been indicted in a CDL scheme involving California Department of Motor Vehicles employees and truck driving schools. In November, two DMV employees pleaded guilty for their role in the scheme. Four others were indicted in July 2015 and either pleaded guilty or await trial, bringing the total to at least 16 people directly involved. Read the article at landlinemag.com.

Gas Tax Fuels 2018 Political Fight (California)

California’s new gas tax hike to fund billions of dollars worth of overdue road repairs has only been in effect for a little over a month but Republicans are already trying to overturn it. Read the article at capitolweekly.net.

Coming Soon: Higher Fees For Montana Vehicle Registrations

Registering your car will be a little more costly starting Jan. 1 when a new 3-percent administrative fee kicks in, and those with fancy motor homes or other high-priced vehicles will pay a lot more because of Montana’s new “Ferrari tax.” There’s no need to fret on the latter category unless those vehicles are valued at $150,000 or more, but county officials want everyone to know about the upcoming fee increases. Read the article at mtstadinrd.com.

Several Oregon Driving, Vehicle Laws Change Jan. 1

In addition to passing a major transportation funding package, the 2017 Oregon Legislature passed a handful of other laws that will affect drivers and vehicle owners. Most will take effect Jan. 1. Read the article at ktvz.com.

Vehicle Thefts In Saskatoon Hit 5-Year High (Saskatchewan)

The number of vehicle thefts in Saskatoon shot up again last year, reaching a five-year high. The Saskatoon Police Service recorded 1,269 car thefts in 2016, according to its latest and recently-released annual report. Read the article at www.cbc.ca.

Saskatoon Bans Vehicles With Alberta Plates From New Highways And Infrastructure Job Sites
Saskatchewan Highways Minister David Marit called banning Alberta licence plates from job sites on new highways and infrastructure projects in this province the “perfect solution” to concerns from contractors over not being able to have Saskatchewan plates on Alberta job sites. Read the article at leaderpost.com.

**DMVs Find A Way To Boost Recall Repair Rates**
Recall compliance rates quadrupled this year in Vermont and nearly doubled in the District of Columbia after they started listing unrepaired defects on residents’ annual vehicle inspection reports, a study commissioned by American Honda found. The results suggest that more states could reduce the number of defective vehicles on their roads for minimal expense. Read the article at autonews.com.

**Exton Company Rolls Out New Way To Test Roads**
An area company with deep Australian roots is putting new meaning into the phrase, “where the rubber meets the road.” ARRB Group Inc., which opened its first U.S. office in the Exton area in 2015, uses advanced technology packed into a tractor trailer to give clients a beneath-the-surface view of the quality of their roadways. Read the article at dailylocal.com.

**GHSA Announces New Research Partnership with Transportation Research Board**
The Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) is pleased to announce the launch of a new forum for collaborative research through the Behavioral Traffic Safety Cooperative Research Program (BTSCRP). Through funding from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), the BTSCRP will conduct research projects proposed and selected by State Highway Safety Offices to provide actionable solutions that will save lives, prevent injuries, and reduce the costs of traffic crashes associated with unsafe behaviors. Read the press release.

**Speeding More Prevalent Among Motorists Than Truckers, CVSA Enforcement Blitz Finds**
During Operation Safe Driver week, 43.5% of motorist citations/warnings were for speeding, compared to 7.4% for truck drivers. Read the article at fleetowner.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!***

FMCSA @FMCSA | View the Tweet

**Electronic Logging Devices**
ELD COMPLIANCE DATE IS DECEMBER 18.
Drivers and Carriers: What to Know, What to Do: [http://1.usa.gov/1T0u6eS](http://1.usa.gov/1T0u6eS)

**Oregon DOT @OregonDOT | View the Tweet**

We're bullshish on road safety

Don't hog the road! #MoveOver

Beginning Jan. 1, drivers must #moveover to another lane or #slowdown by at least 5/mph below the posted speed for ANY vehicle stopped next to the side of the road displaying hazard lights or other signs of distress. Expanded law aimed at improving safety: [http://ow.ly/zDUU30hcPfs](http://ow.ly/zDUU30hcPfs)

**TIRF Canada @TIRFCANADA | View the Tweet**

ROAD SAFETY MONITOR 2017
DRINKING AND DRIVING IN CANADA

Traffic Injury Research Foundation, December 2017

By: Steve W. Brown, Manuela Malheiros Hing, Ward G. M. VanLaar, and Robyn D. Robertson

ISBN: 978-1-9998953-1-9

This fact sheet summarizes findings about drinking and driving in Canada from the Road Safety Monitor (RSM), 2017, a national public opinion poll on road safety issues. This annual poll is conducted by the Traffic Injury Research Foundation (TIRF) in partnership with Beer Canada and State Farm. The survey takes the pulse of the nation on key road safety issues by means of an online survey of a random, representative sample of Canadian drivers.

Progress in curbing drinking and driving but continued vigilance needed: poll - Traffic Injury Research Foundation [http://tirf.ca/2017/12/10/progress-curbing-drinking-driving-continued-vigilance-needed-poll-17/#.Wi6h-TX6pU0.twitter ... #roadsafety #research](http://tirf.ca/2017/12/10/progress-curbing-drinking-driving-continued-vigilance-needed-poll-17/#.Wi6h-TX6pU0.twitter ... #roadsafety #research)

**CA DMV @CA_DMV | View the Tweet**
Our friends from @CHP_Valley picked up toys DMV employees generously donated to support CHiPs for Kids Toy Drive for disadvantaged children in our communities. More than 100 toys filled several barrels at DMV. @CHP_HQ #CHiPsForKids #donations #toydrive

SDDOT @SouthDakotaDOT | View the Tweet
**When You See A Snow Plow**

Don’t assume plow drivers see you. Their field of vision is limited.

Never pass on the right. Plows are pushing snow and spreading sand to the right.

Stay 70 feet (four car lengths) from the maintenance vehicle so the driver can see you.

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#DontCrowdThePlow

* The safest place to drive is behind the plow at least four car lengths - let the plow clear the snow drifts!
* Reminder: plows travel at 35 mph or less so please slow down & #GiveEmABrake.

**Sgt Kerry Schmidt @OPP_HSD | View Tweet**

Watch on #Periscope: Brian Ursino @aamvaconnection discusses the future of autonomous vehicles, and marijuana legal…

#DriveSafeSD #SDDOT511