



American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators

aamva.org

movemag.org

TWIRcast



OUR SPONSORS

KINEGRAM®



Interested in having your logo appear here? Become a Regional News sponsor by contacting **Rob Stershic** rstershic@aamva.org 703.908.2825

OUR EVENTS

Register Now for the 2016 Region I Conference



Registration is now open for the 2016 Region I Conference, July 17-20 in Burlington, Vermont. The conference provides an opportunity for you and your peers to discuss relevant driver's license, motor vehicle and law enforcement related issues. Visit the [2016 Region I Conference Web site](#) for more information and to [register today!](#)

REGION I NEWS

U.S. Justice Department Investigating Connecticut Motor Voter Program

The U.S. Department of Justice has informed state officials that it is investigating Connecticut's "motor voter" program — under which citizens can sign up to vote at the Department of Motor Vehicles — and has found "widespread noncompliance" with federal laws. [Read the full story at Courant.com.](#)

Maryland Traffic Deaths Up 17.3 Percent in 2015

Some 520 people died on Maryland roadways last year — an increase of 17.3 percent from the previous year, state transportation officials said Tuesday. [Read the full story at BaltimoreSun.com.](#)

New Law Would Give ID Options (New Hampshire)

Granite Staters may soon have choices when it comes to their state-issued IDs, including the option to comply with federal security standards. [Read the full story at EagleTribune.com.](#)

Christie Sending All Motor Vehicle Employees to Customer Service Training (New Jersey)

New Jersey Governor Chris Christie announced Thursday he's initiating a statewide program to require all Motor Vehicle Commission employees to undergo mandatory customer service training at least once a year. Christie said the goal is to "ensure that MVC consumers receive the best consumer service we can provide." [Read the full story at NJ.com.](#)

New York Man Charged with Selling Commercial Driver's Licenses

MAY

9-12 | [AAMVA Leadership Academy](#)

Arlington, VA
By Application Only

16-19 | [Region IV Conference](#)



[Register online today!](#)

JUNE

12-15 | [Region II Conference](#)



[Register online today!](#)

JULY

17-20 | [Region I Conference](#)



[Register online today!](#)

AUGUST

16-18 | [Annual International Conference](#)



[Register online today!](#)

Mahmoud Odetallah, 26, of Bronx, N.Y., was arrested Wednesday by FBI special agents and charged Thursday with one count of wire fraud, according to the office of U.S. Attorney Paul J. Fishman. According to the complaint, Odetallah advertised commercial driver's licenses for cash between August and February. [Read the full story at NJ.com.](#)

Vermont Is the Nation's Fourth State To Pass An Automatic Registration Law

Automatic voter registration picked up more momentum Thursday as Vermont Gov. Peter Shumlin (D) signed a bill that would automatically register eligible voters when they interact with Department of Motor Vehicles offices. [Read the full story at HuffingtonPost.com.](#)

REGION II NEWS

Florida Highway Patrol Promotes New Chief Of Public Affairs

This week, Colonel Gene Spaulding, Director of the Florida Highway Patrol, promoted Captain Jeffrey Bissainthe, a U.S. Army veteran with almost 20 years of experience as a trooper, as the new Chief of Public Affairs for FHP. As spokesperson for the Florida Highway Patrol, the Chief PAO is responsible for overseeing FHP's Office of Public Affairs. [Read the full press release.](#)

Real ID, Work Ready Initiatives Vetoed By Governor (Kentucky)

Gov. Matt Bevin has put a red line through parts of the state biennial budget and vetoed all or a portion of six additional bills, including a piece of legislation that appeared primed for a signature. One surprise casualty is Senate Bill 245, a measure paving the way for Kentucky's driver's licenses to become Real ID compliant. [Read the full story at WUKY.org](#)

Electronic Driver's License Bill Passes Committee Vote (Louisiana)

A bill to create an electronic Louisiana driver's license passed the House Transportation Committee Monday. If it becomes law, the Office of Motor Vehicles would create a smartphone app that a driver could use to present a valid electronic driver's license to law enforcement or to other state and local government agencies. [Read the full story at NewsLocker.com.](#)

DMV Considers Boost in Fees for Car Titles, Registrations (Texas)

It's a recurring debate in Texas politics - local government control versus big government regulation - this time applied to vehicle registration and title services. Several Texas counties, including Harris, Bexar and Travis, are objecting to a state plan to increase the cost of in-person or mail-in automobile registrations while cutting the cost of doing it online. [Read the full story at HoustonChronicle.com.](#)

Texas DPS Launches Initiatives to Help Drivers With Autism, Communication Challenge

Texans who have communication impairments could soon feel safer on the roads thanks to an initiative started by the Texas Department of Public Safety, the Texas Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities and Aspergers101. [Read the full](#)

OUR WEBINARS

MAY

3, 10, 17, 24, 31 | [NMVTIS State Web Interface \(SWI\) 3.0 - Understanding the New Data Elements](#)

2:00-3:00 pm ET

OUR SURVEYS

Please respond to these surveys from Georgia, Arkansas, and South Carolina.

[Motorcycle Rider Education](#) (Ends 05/16/2016) Response received from NH.

[Online Vehicle Renewal](#) (Ends 05/10/2016) Responses received from AL, DC, GA, ID, IL, MN, MO, NE, VA, VT, WA.

[Sale of Information](#) (Ends 05/06/2016) Responses received from AB, AL, CA, DC, K, KY, LA, MN, ND, NE, NH, OH, OR, SD, UT, VA, VT, WA.

[Non-compliant DL/ID Card](#) (Ends 05/09/2016) Responses received from CT, DE, FL, IL, IN, LA, MD, MO, MS, ND, NE, NH, ON, SC, SD, UT, VA, VT, WA.

These jurisdictions appreciate your assistance with their research. If you need a Web password or have any questions about using the survey tool, please send an e-mail to webportalsupport@aamva.org or call Janice Dluzynski at 703-908-5842. All online surveys can be found on the [AAMVA Web site](#).

[article on kfoxtv.com.](#)

REGION III NEWS

Kansas Highway Patrol Undergoing Accreditation Process

The Kansas Highway Patrol has recently begun an intense process, with the goal of becoming an accredited law enforcement agency. The Patrol initiated the process of becoming accredited through The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). [Read the KHP press release.](#)

New Plate Honors Women Who Have Served in the Military (Ohio)

The Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) is now offering a specialty license plate dedicated to women veterans. On Monday, April 25, 2016, the plate will be available for purchase to any woman currently serving or retired who has served in any branches of the military: Marine; Navy; Army; Air Force; and Coast Guard. [Read the BMV press release.](#)

Governor Walker to Sign Bill That Will Make Fourth Offense Drunk Driving a Felony (Wisconsin)

A statement from the Governor's Office indicates Governor Scott Walker on Monday, April 25th will sign into law a bill cracking down on drunk driving. [Read the full story at Fox6Now.com.](#)

REGION IV NEWS

California Regulators Greenlight Uber And Lyft Carpools

San Francisco recently required Uber and Lyft drivers to obtain a business license before being granted permission to operate within the city and, while the two ride sharing companies have differing opinions on the matter, some good news arrived for both, courtesy of California Transport Regulators. [Read the full story at TechTimes.com.](#)

DMV Suspends Driver Education Requirement for New Drivers (Washington)

The Washington Department of Motor Vehicles is suspending a rule that would have required first-time drivers to complete a driver education course before earning a driver's license. [Read the full story at WTOP.com.](#)

Washington State Patrol Announces Line-Of-Duty Trooper Death for Explosive Detection K9

Washington State Patrol Chief John R. Batiste announces the death of K9 Patrick, assigned to the Division of Homeland Security. On Thursday, April 14, Patrick, age 2 years and 9 months, died after undergoing emergency surgery after a sudden illness during explosive detection training caused animal hospitalization. [Read the WSP press release.](#)

OTHER NEWS

Google, Ford, Uber Join Forces to Promote Autonomous Cars

Will autonomous cars make America great again? These five companies seem to think so. On Tuesday, April 26th, auto and tech giants Google, Ford, Volvo, Uber, and Lyft announced the creation of the Self-Driving Coalition for Safer Streets, a lobbying group that will work with both policy makers and the public to promote autonomous driving technology. [Read the full article on ECNmag.com.](#)

Tesla's Autopilot Lowers Probability of Having an Accident by 50% Based on Early Data, says Musk

Last week, Tesla CEO Elon Musk made an interesting comment that went mostly unnoticed during a talk in Norway. While talking with Minister of Transport and Communications Ketil Solvik-Olsen, Musk said that based on early data from the Autopilot program, Tesla's semi-autonomous driving system, the probability of an accident happening is about 50% lower when the system is activated. [Read the full story at Electrek.co.](#)

The Attorney General's New Mission: Helping Prisoners Get IDs When They're Released

Attorney General Loretta E. Lynch on Monday is expected to announce a broad set of prison reforms that are intended to reduce recidivism and help inmates when they reenter society. Most are lofty and unsurprising goals, such as giving prisoners job and life skills training while they're behind bars and providing each of them with a plan tailored to their needs. [Read the full story at WashingtonPost.com.](#)

'Zero Traffic Deaths' Movement Gaining Speed in Major U.S. Cities

Every year in America, over 30,000 people are killed in road or highway accidents. You may not find that number shocking, but there was a time when traffic deaths were considered a tragic scourge. In the 1930s, for instance, the authorities of Washington, D.C. would hoist a skull and crossbones to note each local traffic fatality. [Read the full story at Fortune.com.](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

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!

IIHS @IIHS_autosafety | [View the Tweet](#)

MT @JDPowerAutos: 2016 U.S. Tech Choice Study: Consumer Interest Builds for

'Gateway' Automated Vehicle Technologies <http://bit.ly/26xGyNf>

NYS DMV @nysdmv | [View the Tweet](#)

<https://twitter.com/nysdmv/status/725737007314538496>

Can't miss our new display on the Empire State Plaza Concourse near Capitol. 200+ plates at <http://dmv.ny.gov>.



MD_MVA @MD_MVA | [View the Tweet](#)

Computer issues with DL services continue. We apologize for the inconvenience. Skip the trip by clicking here <http://ow.ly/4ncRku>

CA DMV @CA_DMV | [View the Tweet](#)

#TBT Pop Quiz! Outside the DMV in Hayward, CA, 19___. Can you guess what year it is?



MD_MVA @MD_MVA | [View the Tweet](#)

Statement from Governor Larry Hogan on Roadway Fatality Increase. <http://ow.ly/4ncKlg>

Responsibility.org @goFAAR | [View the Tweet](#)

"2016 marks our 25th anniv....proud to report drunk driving in America has declined nearly 40% since our inception." @rsblackman #TODASTWD

Wisconsin DOT @WisconsinDOT | [View the Tweet](#)

Go ahead, enjoy your lunch. #SkipTheTrip and get your month-end DMV tasks done online: <http://wisconsin.dmv.gov>

Safe Roads Alliance @Safe_Roads | [View the Tweet](#)

From @goTrueMotion app: 10 things to know about Teen Drivers
<http://gotruemotion.com/blog> ... @PSDP_Info @impactdrivers @end_dd
@InHonorOfConor

Safe Roads Alliance @Safe_Roads | [View the Tweet](#)

Lifesaver app: A way to keep family safe on the road, but still safely connected:
<http://lifesaver-app.com/896-2/> @JacyGood @DrivingReal @PSDP_Info

Smart, Safe & Sober @SmartSafeSober | [View the Tweet](#)

FREE Training: "Below 100" — Saving Officer Lives –



MN Public Safety @MnDPS_DPS | [View the Tweet](#)

DPS news: MN reaches 100 traffic deaths. Fatalities include 6 motorcyclists, 12 pedestrians & 1 bicyclist. <http://ow.ly/4ncxhW>

Zero Fatalities @ZeroFatalities | [View the Tweet](#)

This may surprise you: the highest # of drowsy driver crashes occur 6-7 a.m. and 3-6 p.m. Never risk #DrowsyDriving

ITS JPO Director @ITSJPODirector | [View the Tweet](#)

@NHTSAgov public meeting on #AutomatedVehicle Operational Guidance starts 9AM PT/12 PM ET; watch the livestream:
<http://www.nhtsa.gov/nhtsa/symposiums/april2016/index.html> ...

VirginiaDMV @VirginiaDMV | [View the Tweet](#)

#DYK VA law bans all cellphone use behind the wheel for 18 and younger—even hands free devices. One text or call could wreck it all.

MD_MVA @MD_MVA | [View the Tweet](#)

Motorcycles are vehicles and riders have the same rights as anyone else on the roadway <http://ow.ly/4ncffa>

NOYS @ANOYSnews | [View the Tweet](#)

We look forward to kicking off GYTSM on 5/2 w/ @FHS_drivered @NTSB & more:
<https://safetycompass.wordpress.com/20...> #TrafficSafeYouth

Billie Jean Shaw WIS @BillieJeanTV | [View the Tweet](#)

Three SCDOT workers who lost their lives while working over the past year:
Timothy Gibson, Ray Norris, Paul Fee #RIP



The Regional News e-newsletter is developed and distributed by the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA).
This message was intended for INSERT_EMAIL. If you would like to stop receiving this message, [click here to unsubscribe](#).

To manage all your AAMVA subscriptions, [click here](#) .

4401 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 700, Arlington, VA 22203