



American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators

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AAMVA Issues Statement on the DOT/NHTSA Automated Vehicles Policy

AAMVA issued the following statement in response to NHTSA's [recently released policy on automated vehicles](#).

"AAMVA is pleased to see the federal leadership on this issue and welcomes NHTSA's position on the fast-developing field of automated vehicles. This vehicle technology holds the life-changing promise to improve safety and mobility for all citizens. The AAMVA community of Motor Vehicle Administrators and Law Enforcement leaders is proud to be a key partner in these discussions and to have collaborated with NHTSA on the development of the Model State Policy.

AAMVA commends the federal government for recognizing and seriously considering the needs of the states in preparing the Model State Policy. The policy provides a consistent and standardized approach to regulating highly automated vehicles while simultaneously honoring the flexibility and autonomy of each individual state. Since it was developed in consultation with the AAMVA Autonomous Vehicles Working Group, we hope states will follow the tenets of the Policy when crafting public policy that balances promoting innovation with the regulatory responsibility to uphold public safety."

See "[News Extra: Autonomous Vehicles](#)" in this issue of *Regional News* for more.

2016 Edition of the DL/ID Card Design Standard Now Available



The [AAMVA DL/ID Card Design Standard \(CDS\)](#) provides for the design of driver licenses (DL) and identification (ID) cards. Its intent is to improve the security of the DL/ID cards and the level of interoperability among cards issued by all North American jurisdictions. Maintained by the Card Design Standard committee, the CDS is updated as needed based on evolving business needs of issuing agencies. The 2016 update contains numerous edits to capture current technical processes as well as a number of key policy related updates. [Download the 2016 document](#).

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

AAMVA Releases Resource Guide on Gender Designation on DL/ID Cards

AAMVA has published a new [Resource Guide on Gender Designation on Driver's Licenses and Identification Cards](#). The guide provides a comprehensive listing of the range of approaches jurisdictions use when serving customers who

OUR EVENTS

OCTOBER

25-26 | [Region III Information Exchange](#)

Oakbrook, IL



[Register online!](#)

OUR WEBINARS

SEPTEMBER

27 | [NMVTIS SWI - How to Correct Title and Brand Data on the Central Site](#)

28 | [Understanding and Using: New CD90.7.4 Out-of-State \(OOS\) Convictions and Withdrawals Posting Report](#)

OPEN RFPs

Check out AAMVA's [Open RFPs page](#) for potential opportunities.

OUR SURVEYS

Please respond to these surveys from Alberta, New Jersey, Virginia, Illinois, British Columbia, and AAMVA.

[Delivery of Motor Vehicle Services](#) (Ends 10/12/2016) Responses received from FL, NY, VT.

[Languages for Forms, Web, In-person Translation](#) (Ends 10/07/2016) Responses received from AB, FL, LA, ND.

[Road Test Scheduling](#) (Ends 10/04/2016) Responses received from AB, AR, DC, FL, IL, KS, LA, ME, MN, M, ND, NY, OH, RI, D, WA, WI.

[DL Reinstatement Fees](#) (Ends



apply to make a gender designation change on government-issued DL/IDs.

REGION I NEWS

Connecticut Troopers Sued Over Arrest, Treatment of Protester

Three Connecticut state troopers are accused in a lawsuit filed Thursday of violating the constitutional rights of a protester at a sobriety checkpoint by seizing his pistol and camera and then arresting him on bogus criminal charges. [Read the full story at NBC4i.com.](#)

Merrill Says Connecticut 'Motor Voter' System Hits Fast Lane (Connecticut)

Connecticut registered more voters through the Department of Motor Vehicles in the past month than it did over three previous calendar years, when federal officials complained its "motor voter" system was so ineffectual as to be in violation of a U.S. civil rights law. [Read the full story at CTMirror.org.](#)

MD PROUD License Plate to Hit Streets on Monday (Maryland)



Beginning Monday, September 26, 2016, Marylanders can display their pride in their home state as the Maryland Department of Transportation's Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) rolls out the new Maryland Proud license plate.

Governor Larry Hogan unveiled the new design last month, which prominently

features the state flag. The new standard-issue plate is available for all passenger cars, SUV's trucks, motorcycles and multipurpose vehicles. [Read the MVA press release.](#)

Swear Word License Plate Debated at Maryland's Highest Court

The Maryland Court of Appeals recently heard arguments as it considers whether the state's Motor Vehicle Administration acted unconstitutionally in recalling vanity license plates sporting a Spanish scatological word. [Read the full story at Patch.com.](#)

New Red Light Law Goes into Effect in Pennsylvania

A new state law is now in effect that allows Pennsylvania drivers to go through red lights in certain situations. If you believe a light is malfunctioning and it's safe to go, you can keep driving. [Read the full story at WGAL.com.](#)

Rhode Island DMV Agrees to Translate Driver Tests

The Rhode Island Division of Motor Vehicles has agreed to translate its driver tests into Italian and other languages as part of a settlement in a civil rights lawsuit. The DMV filed a compliance plan this week with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. [Read the full story at 630WPRO.com.](#)

10/03/2016) Responses received from AR, CT, DC, FL, GA, IL, KS, LA, MO, MT, ND, NY, OH, SC, SD, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV.

[State to State Implementation](#)

(Ends 09/30/2016) Responses received from AR, DC, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, ME, MD, MN, MO, MS, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, NY, OR, SD, TX, VA, VT, WI, WV.

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](#).

REGION II NEWS

DHSMV Releases Redesigned Animal Friend Specialty License Plate (Florida)



The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) is pleased to announce the release of the newly redesigned Animal Friend specialty license plate. The new plate will be delivered to tax collector and tag agency offices and available by October 7. [Read](#)

[the DHSMV press release](#).

REGION III NEWS

Researchers Offer Free Gas to Drivers Who Agree to MPI Drug Test Study (Manitoba)

Drivers voluntarily taking part in a Manitoba Public Insurance breathalyzer and saliva test research project this month will be offered free gas if they agree to take part. [Read the full story at ReportCA.net](#).

MPI to Seek Monster Rate Increase (Manitoba)

The highest insurance-rate hike in decades for motorists could be in the cards when Manitoba Public Insurance meets with the Public Utilities Board in October. A rate increase of up to seven per cent is on the table as the Crown corporation attempts to protect customers from a massive "rate shock" caused by years of lower-than-predicted interest rates, MPI officials said. Since 2000, the highest rate increase was in 2004, when rates increased 3.7 per cent. [Read the full story at WinnipegFreepress.com](#).

Michigan Bars Tesla from Opening Stores

Michigan officials have officially rejected Tesla Motors' bid to open retail stores here, once again sending a message to the upstart automaker that it is not welcome in the state. [Read the full story at USAToday.com](#).

Rep. Offers Compromise on Real ID (Missouri)

House Speaker Pro Tem Denny Hoskins said he wants to make Real ID optional in Missouri. State law does not allow Real ID under any circumstances, at least for now. [Read the full story at DailyStarJournal.com](#).

Ohio State Highway Patrol Trooper, Kenneth Velez Struck and Killed

Ohio State Highway Patrol Trooper, Kenneth Velez was struck and killed by a vehicle along a stretch of Interstate 90 in Lakewood, Ohio around 1 p.m. Thursday. [Read the full story at Patch.com](#).

REGION IV NEWS

California DMV Grants Baidu Autonomous Vehicle Testing Permit

Baidu USA has been granted an Autonomous Vehicle Testing Permit by the California Department of Motor Vehicles, according to recent reports. What that means, is that the Chinese firm Baidu (Baidu USA is a subsidiary) joins the likes of Google, Tesla, BMW, Ford, Mercedes-Benz, and some others in being

granted the right to legally test autonomous driving technologies on the state's extensive and geographically varied roads. The company is now the 15th to obtain such a permit in the Golden State. [Read the full story at CleanTechnica.com.](#)

OTHER NEWS

Pokemon Go a New Distraction for Drivers: Study

While the Pokemon Go craze has become less of a deafening roar and more of a dull rumble, the popular game is still taking its toll on safety. A new study has concluded that the augmented reality game is causing more motorists to become distracted while driving. [Read the full story at GlobalNews.ca.](#)

Drivers Over 85 are the Fastest-Growing Group on the Road

Not sure that driverless cars are safer than cars driven by humans? Consider this: Drivers over the age of 85 represent the fastest-growing segment of American automobile users. Their numbers doubled between 1998 and 2013, to 3.48 million drivers — the highest number ever on record — and the number is rising, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration. [Read the full story at LATimes.com.](#)

News Extra: Autonomous Vehicles

USDOT Releases Federal Automated Vehicles Policy Guidelines for Autonomous Vehicles

The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) and its National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has issued the long-awaited Federal Automated Vehicles Policy covering guidance for automated/autonomous vehicles on the nation's highways. [Read the full article on equipmentworld.com.](#)

US Department of Transportation Issues Guidance for Automated Driving

With the recent announcement, the US Department of Transportation is enthusiastically embracing automated driving. It's saying that self-driving vehicles are coming in some form (or many forms) and that the agency can play a role not only in supervising but also in assisting this transportation transformation. [Read the full article on Robohub.org.](#)

U.S. Aims to Tame 'Wild West' of Self-Driving Cars

Self-driving car advocates and observers are reacting with cautious approval Tuesday to the government's 112-page directive on the transformational technology. [Read the full story at USAToday.com.](#)

Regional AV News Highlights:

Uber Debuts Self-Driving Cars in Pittsburgh (Pennsylvania)

When Pittsburgh wakes up on Wednesday morning, some residents will have the choice of going about their day in an Uber that drives itself. The launch of Uber's self-driving pilot program marks the public unveiling of the company's secretive work in autonomous vehicles and the first time self-driving cars have been so freely available to the U.S. public. [Read the full story at Fortune.com.](#)

How Florida Became the Most Important US State in the Race to Legalize Self-Driving Cars

In 2012, Google dropped off two self-driving cars near the steps of Florida's

statehouse in Tallahassee. They were there at the behest of a freshly elected Florida state senator, Jeff Brandes. Lawmakers, some with families in tow, stepped into Google's modified Toyota Priuses. With a Google employee standing by in the driver seat, the cars drove loops around the capital building, and then headed to the freeway, accelerating to 70 mph. No one touched the steering wheel for most of the ride, Brandes recounts. [Read the full story at QZ.com](#).

Michigan House Panel Unanimously Oks Amended Autonomous Vehicle Bills

A House committee on Tuesday advanced four bills that would regulate Michigan's developing autonomous vehicle industry, with changes designed to satisfy concerns about exclusion raised by tech giant Google Inc. The House communications and technology committee unanimously voted to send Senate Bills 995-98 to the House floor. The legislation unanimously cleared the Senate earlier this month. [Read the full story at AutoNews.com](#).

California's Proposed DMV Rules for Driverless Cars Could Change in the Wake of Federal Guidelines

For California state officials, the new federal guidelines on testing and deployment of driverless cars come as a bit of a relief. Until this week, the absence of U.S. government guidance had left the state Department of Motor Vehicles — generally in charge of registering vehicles and issuing drivers' licenses — to take the lead role in drafting regulations to ensure the safety of self-driving vehicles. [Read the full story at LATimes.com](#).

More AV news:

- [Self-Driving Cars Coming In Months, Not Years](#) (Forbes.com)
- [Lyft's President Says Car Ownership Will 'All But End' in U.S. Cities by 2025](#) (Fortune.com)
- [Barack Obama: Self-driving. Yes. But Also Safe](#) (Post-Gazette.com)
- [Lyft Expects Autonomous Vehicles to Handle Most of its Trips by 2021](#) (DallasNews.com)
- [U.S. Government Releases Safety Guidelines for Self-driving Cars](#) (Money.CNN.com)
- [U.S. Regulators May Pre-Approve Self-Driving Cars](#) (Fortune.com)
- [Feds Outline Plans to Regulate Autonomous Cars](#) (The Recorder.com)
- [Federal Officials Plan Aggressive Approach to Driverless Cars](#) (WashingtonPost.com)
- [U.S. Regulators May Pre-Approve Self-Driving Cars](#) (Fortune.com)
- [Coming Today: The Government's New Rules for Autonomous Cars](#) (TheCarConnection.com)
- [U.S. Signals Backing for Self-Driving Cars](#) (NYTimes.com)
- [Google's Vision of a Driverless Future Just Got a Big Boost from the Government](#) (BusinessInsider.com)
- [Regulating Self-Driving Cars For Safety, Even Before They're Built](#) (NPR.org)
- [Self-Driving Cars Gain Powerful Ally: The Government](#) (NYTimes.com)

- [The 15-Point Federal Checklist for Self-Driving Car](#) (NYTimes)

AV Discussion on Twitter and Facebook:

[Twitter keyword search on "autonomous vehicles driverless"](#)

[DriverlessCarHQ](#) (Facebook Page)

[Autonomous Vehicles/Driverless Vehicles](#) (Facebook Page)

[Facebook keyword Search: "autonomous vehicles driverless"](#)

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!*****

We'll be back with more Twitter talk next week!



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4401 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 700, Arlington, VA 22203