IDEF Executive Board Seeks Reps to Fill Region III & IV Seats; Deadline for Applications is Next Friday

AAMVA is looking for volunteers to serve as the Region III and IV Representatives on the International Driver Examiner Certification (IDEC) Executive Board, a permanent AAMVA Executive Board which is directly responsible for maintaining and distributing new and revised IDEC materials to the AAMVA members. More details about these opportunities are available on AAMVA's Web site. Applications must be submitted to committees@aamva.org no later than close of business on Friday, February 19, 2016. (Please cc your submission to Denise Hanchulak at dhanchulak@aamva.org).

Deadline Extended for Motor Carrier Working Group Applications

Those interested in being part of AAMVA's new Motor Carrier Working Group now have until February 18th to submit applications. The new Motor Carrier Working Group was recently created by the AAMVA Board of Directors to improve collaboration opportunities for motor carrier experts in your agencies. More information about this volunteer opportunity, please visit the Committees and Working Groups page.

Malloy: DMV Changes Can Reduce Wait Times (Connecticut)

Gov. Dannel P. Malloy has introduced legislation aimed at reducing wait times at state Department of Motor Vehicle offices. The move follows months of problems at DMV offices caused by a number of reasons, mostly from replacing an antiquated computer system that was intended to improve operations. It also follows the abrupt departure of Andres Ayala, of Bridgeport, who served as DMV commissioner for about a year. Read the full story at CTPost.com.

Call To Put More Restrictions On Older Maryland Drivers

An aging population behind the wheel of the car. A call for more restrictions on licensing and renewal for elderly Maryland drivers is heard in Annapolis. Read the full story at Baltimore.CBSLocal.com.
Bill Would Change Driver's License Renewal Process (Maryland)

State lawmakers heard passionate testimony Thursday for a bill that would change the driver's license renewal process. Victims' family members joined national experts for a briefing in Annapolis in hopes of changing state law to require older drivers to renew their licenses in person. They want changes made to better evaluate driving ability. Read the full story at WBALTV.com.

Counties Want Larger Percentage of DMV Transaction Fees (New York)

As more and more people renew license plates, drivers' licenses, title transfers and other functions online instead of at their local county clerk's office, counties in New York State are losing money. Read the full story at MidHudsonNews.com.

PennDOT's Sticker Slaughter May Be Good for Corporate Vehicle Owners

Fleet operators rejoice. A new Pennsylvania Department of Transportation policy is about to make operating a vehicle in this state a little easier, and potentially a little cheaper. Yes, you read that correctly. Effective Dec. 31, PennDOT will no longer issue vehicle registration stickers, a move that was approved under Act 89 of 2013. Read the article on www.cpbj.com.

New Bill Raises Concerns Over Elderly Drivers (Vermont)

A bill in the legislature, H.604, would require drivers age 65 and older to go to the Department of Motor Vehicles and retake the driving test they took when they were 16. Read the full story at TheVermontStandard.com.

Keyless Ignition Deaths: Mounting Cases Reinforce U.S.-Leading Threat (Florida)

Additional cases coming to light are only reinforcing just how deadly an invisible and odorless threat has proven to be in Palm Beach County, which leads the nation in deaths tied to keyless vehicle ignition systems. Read the article on www.mypalmbeachpost.com.

DMV's New and Expanded Service Initiatives Make Customers Smile in 2015 (Virginia)

The Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) made a bevy of service improvements in 2015 designed to make customers smile. DMV added to its slate of vital records services, expanded remote driver's license testing in Virginia high schools, and implemented landmark transportation network company legislation. Read the DMV press release.

OSHP Teams Up With 'Truckers Against Trafficking' (Ohio)

Human trafficking is a huge problem right now, especially in Northwest Ohio. Some of the most common areas for trafficking are rest areas and truck stops. In 2015 alone, 102 human trafficking investigations were reported from law enforcement agencies.
Ohio Supreme Court Rules Blood Evidence May Still Be Admissible, Even If Officers Didn't Follow Handling Guidelines

Blood samples collected by law enforcement may still be used as evidence, even if officers do not strictly comply with rules that the samples be refrigerated, the Ohio Supreme Court ruled today. Read the article on www.cleveland.com.

$28.5 Million Settlement Proposed For Uber Passengers In Safety, Advertising Lawsuits (California)

Uber Technologies Inc. and six passengers asked a federal judge in San Francisco Thursday to approve a $28.5 million settlement of two lawsuits in which the passengers accused the ride-hailing company of misleading customers about the use of its “Safe Rides Fee” and the quality of its background checks of drivers. Read the full article on patch.com.

Some Changes at the Nevada DMV

The Nevada DMV would like to share some team member changes with the AAMVA community. Amy McKinney will assume the duties as the new Nevada DMV Deputy Director on Monday, March 7, 2016. Amy began her career in the Administrative Services Division in Las Vegas in 1992. Since that time, she has promoted from an Accounting Clerk to Budget Analyst, Deputy Chief of Administration, and Chief of Administration. Amy was recently accepted into the May 2016 AAMVA Leadership Academy. We also want to thank the current Deputy Director, Rhonda Bavaro, for her 33 years of service to the State of Nevada and the Department of Motor Vehicles. Rhonda’s well deserved retirement is effective March 4, 2016, and we wish her all the best.

Nevada DMV Requesting More Money for Virtual Line Technology

The Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles may put more money into a virtual line system that it blamed for long wait times last summer. The state Board of Examiners is considering Tuesday whether to expand a five-year contract with vendor QLess by about $300,000, to more than $800,000. Read the full story at KOLOTV.com.

Advocates, Dems Say No To Driver’s License Fingerprints (New Mexico)

Domestic abuse victim advocate groups and Democratic lawmakers met on Thursday to speak out against fingerprints and background checks in driver’s license legislation preferred by the House. Read the full story at NMPoliticalReport.com.

Saskatchewan Vehicle Owners Can Now Print Registrations at Home

SGI is enhancing convenience for customers with changes to vehicle registration certificates. Vehicle registrations can now be printed on plain white paper rather than special green card stock paper. Read the SGI press release.

Google to Start Testing Autonomous Vehicles in Washington
All online surveys can be found on the AAMVA Web site here.

Uber Should Be Regulated Like Taxis, Say Canadians in New Poll
A majority of Canadians believe the ride-sharing service Uber should be subject to the same regulations as taxis, a new poll suggests. Read the full article on www.cbc.ca.

GM Recalling 473,000 SUVs, Pickups in North America for Brake Pedal Problems
General Motors Co (GM.N) said Tuesday it is recalling 473,000 pickups and SUVs in North America because brake pedals could fail due to a faulty nut. Read the full article in Reuters.

MADD Releases First 50-state Report On Ignition Interlocks
Car-locking systems have stopped more than 1.77 million people from driving drunk since states first passed laws requiring offenders to install them in 1999, Mothers Against Drunk Driving said in a first-of-its-kind report on the devices nationwide. Read the full story at ABCNews.go.com.

Rise in Traffic Deaths Last Year Raises Alarm at NHTSA
U.S. Transportation Department officials are mounting an effort to tackle the human causes behind traffic deaths, which after years of steady declines, increased sharply last year. Read the full story at AutoNews.com.

In Boost to Self-Driving Cars, U.S. Tells Google Computers Can Qualify as Drivers
U.S. vehicle safety regulators have said the artificial intelligence system piloting a self-driving Google car could be considered the driver under federal law, a major step toward ultimately winning approval for autonomous vehicles on the roads. Read the full story at News.Yahoo.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 “Twitter-town talk”. You may be surprised at what you’re missing! Follow @AAMVACoNNECTION. (http://twitter.com/#!/AAMVACoNNECTION)

VermontDMV @VTDMV | View the Tweet
Canadian idle: Should you warm up your car before driving it? http://ow.ly/XCb6g

Indiana BMV @INBMV | View the Tweet
Complete #INBMV transactions without leaving the house with our online services!
Visit http://myBMV.com for info

Mass. Transportation @MassDOT | View the Tweet
@MassGovernor Baker honors @MassDOT @MassDCR @MassEMA crews assisting with #MAsnow response in #WashingtonDC!

My Car Does What @MyCarDoesWhat | View the Tweet
Traveling this Valentine’s Day? Make sure you understand how your car’s ABS works before hitting the road: https://mycardoeswhat.org/safety-fea…

NCSL ANCSLorg | View the Tweet
DHS has determined 22 states and DC are fully compliant with #REALID. Is your state one? http://modo.ly/1v73Dz5.

MADD @MADDOnline | View the Tweet
We will not remain silent. We will end drunk driving. #NoMoreVictims pls retweet

Vermont.gov @vermontgov | View the Tweet
Gov. Shumlin Statement on Senate Finance Committee Passage of Marijuana Legalization Bill http://bit.ly/1o7i2jP

CA DMV @CA_DMV | View the Tweet
The “Basic Speed Law” means no driving faster than what is safe for conditions, even if it's under the speed limit. http://bit.ly/1xFEjCO

Responsibility.org @goFAAR | View the Tweet
We are working in 30+ states to pass strong laws. This week we're in CO w/ @NationalFCCLA fighting youth drugged driving.

NHTSA @NHTSAgov | View the Tweet
Help keep you and your passengers safe by checking if your car has a #safety #recall and getting it fixed for… http://fb.me/4lijBZ0q2c

TeensInTheDriverSeat @TeensDriverSeat | View the Tweet
See how @Austin_Police are cracking down on distracted drivers. #buses #stopthetexts #itcanwait via @KEYETV http://keyetv.com/ne… …

Zero Fatalities @ZeroFatalities | View the Tweet
Distractions don’t just come from your phone. Eating, makeup, pets and passengers are also driving distractions. #dontdrivedistractedUT

ITD @IdahoITD | View the Tweet
To stay safe when turning, stay in your lane! Idaho Code 49-644.