

January 22, 2016



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INCLEMENT WEATHER ALERT

The Washington Metropolitan area is expecting a very large snowstorm the afternoon of Friday, January 22nd. AAMVA's headquarter offices will be closed Friday afternoon and depending on the severity of the storm, there may be closures early the following week. AAMVA staff will continue working remotely and operations will remain ongoing

Registration for the 2016 Region IV Annual Conference is Now Open!

Online registration is now available for the 2016 Region IV Annual Conference. This year's conference will take place May 16-19, at the Hilton Portland & Executive Tower in beautiful Portland, Oregon. The 2016

Region IV Conference will be packed with two and a half days of discussions on the latest driver licensing, motor vehicle and law enforcement topics. Learn about the successes and challenges of others, share ideas, build relationships, and discover the many products and services provided by our industry partners that can assist in your mission. Industry attendees will have the opportunity to meet with key players in the motor vehicle and law enforcement arena. Visit the [2016 Region IV Conference Web site](#) to learn more.

Deadline Looms: Get Your Awards Submissions In Before It's Too Late!

AAMVA's Awards Program is a great way to recognize individuals, teams and organizations in the motor vehicle administration and law enforcement community for their commitment and hard work. With a **February 1st submission deadline** quickly approaching, you'll want to act now to give credit where credit is due. View the [2016 Awards Promo Video](#) to learn more about the awards, and visit the [Awards Page](#) on AAMVA's Web site to download the 2016 Submission and Nomination Packet and Entry Form.

2016 Workshop & Law Institute

AAMVA's 2016 Workshop & Law Institute is scheduled to take place in Cincinnati, Ohio, March

OUR EVENTS

FEBRUARY

2-3 | [DMV Investigator Integration Working Group Meeting](#)

Phoenix, AZ
By invitation only

OUR WEBINARS

JANUARY

26 | [NMVTIS State Web interface \(SWI\) 3.0 - Understanding the New Data Elements](#)

2:00 - 3:00 pm ET

FEBRUARY

2, 9, 16 | [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 Wisconsin, Florida, Kansas, Alberta, Illinois, and Georgia.

[Point System Process](#) (Ends 02/12/2016)

[CDL Third Party Testing](#) (Ends 02/15/2016)

[Field Office Frontline Employee Certification](#) (Ends 02/12/2016)

[Lighting and Safety Measures for Tow Trucks](#) (Ends 02/08/2016)

[REAL ID residency documents](#) (Ends 02/08/2016)

[CDL Driver Improvement Program](#) (Ends 01/29/2016)

[Paperless DMV](#) (Ends 02/12/2016)

[Third Party Testing for Non-Commercial DL](#) (Ends 01/26/2016)



9-10, 2016. [Watch the promo video](#) to learn more, and visit the [Workshop & Law Institute Web site](#) to register today

REGION I NEWS

Connecticut DMV Commissioner Stepping Down Following Computer Issues

Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles Commissioner Andres Ayala Jr. is stepping down following various problems with a computer system upgrade. [Read the full story at NewYork.CBSLocal.com.](#)

Massachusetts Senate to Consider Distracted Driving Bill

Drivers in Massachusetts may soon have to put down their cellphones when they're on the road. A bill prohibiting the use of hand-held mobile electronic devices while driving would also make it illegal to enter information by hand into a GPS device while behind the wheel. [Read the full story at WAMC.org.](#)

New York Push to Curb Underage Drinking Led to 758 Arrests in 2015

Investigators with New York's Department of Motor Vehicles arrested 758 people and seized more than 760 fake IDs in 2015 as part of an effort to crack down on underage drinking. [Read the full story at UticaOD.com.](#)

Drivers Could Lose Registrations Over Five Unpaid Tolls (New York)

The state is cracking down on drivers who repeatedly fail to pay tolls and fees on New York's roads. [Read the full story at TimesUnion.com.](#)

REGION II NEWS

Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles Releases Updated Florida Driver Handbook

DHSMV has updated the handbook with clear and easy-to-understand content and graphics to help ensure all readers effectively comprehend Florida traffic laws and regulations regarding the operation of a motor vehicle on Florida roads. [Read the DHSMV press release.](#)

Georgia Department of Driver Services Investigators Earn Prestigious State Certification

Commissioner Rob Mikell, Department of Driver Services (DDS), announced today that the Agency's Office of Investigative Services (OIS) has earned State Law Enforcement Certification by the State of Georgia Law Enforcement Certification Program headed by the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police (GACP). It is estimated that less than 20% of over 700 law enforcement agencies in the State of Georgia are state certified. [Read the DDS press release.](#)

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 here](#).

Drunken Drivers Would Have to Wait 10 Years to Clear Records (Kentucky)

Drunken drivers would have to wait 10 years for convictions to come off their records under a bill that cleared the state Senate on Wednesday, potentially increasing the number of repeat offenders and adding to the state's local jail population. [Read the full story at WLWT.com](#).

Preparing for Year Two of “Two Steps, One Sticker” (Texas)

As Texas steps into the second year of the “Two Steps, One Sticker” program for vehicle inspection and registration, vehicle owners can look forward to a simpler process for these two important annual vehicle requirements. [Read the DMV press release](#).

DMV Researches Effects of Ride-Sharing on Drunk Driving (Virginia)

While popular ride-sharing companies have been hotly debated, they may be changing Virginia for the better. In fact, companies like Uber and Lyft are reportedly saving lives. [Read the full story at Wavy.com](#).

REGION III NEWS

Indiana License Plate Combats Distracted Driving

A new license plate available in Indiana is the first to combat distracted driving. The specialty license plate reads, “Put the Phone Down”, and its goal is to keep Indiana drivers' eyes on the road – not on their phone. [Read the full story at Courier.journal.com](#).

Licence Plate Validation Stickers Being Eliminated (Manitoba)

Licence plate validation stickers will no longer be required by Manitobans, or issued by Autopac agents, effective March 1, 2016. [Read the MPI news release](#).

Manitoba Government Approves All-in-One Personal Identification Card

Manitobans will soon have access to a convenient, safe and secure all-in-one personal identification card (PIC), Health Minister Sharon Blady announced today. [Read the MPI press release](#).

Snyder: Willow Run ‘Best Place’ to Test Driverless Cars (Michigan)

Gov. Rick Snyder said Tuesday he is working with Michigan's congressional delegation to create a center for the testing and development of autonomous cars in Washtenaw County. [Read the full story at DetroitNews.com](#).

Minnesota's Pat McCormack Retires

Pat McCormack retired as Director of the Minnesota Driver and Vehicle Services Division on Tuesday. She began her tenure on July 24, 2000 as the Driver Services Program Director, she was promoted to Director in May of 2004. While with the agency Pat helped to implement a fee based budget, lead the DVS reorganization from 2000-2005, was involved with the redesign of Driver and

Vehicle Services information system. Pat was very involved with AAMVA over the years, and served on both the International Board of Directors and the Region III Board. Retired, Pat will be traveling, volunteering and spending time with her family. We wish her the best of luck and send our thanks for all of her hard work and dedication over the years!

Ohio Starts Process to "Certify" Law Enforcement Agencies After Development of New Police Standards

As part of the state's efforts to strengthen community and police relations, the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board is asking law enforcement agencies to become "certified" by meeting new statewide standards for the use of force, including deadly force, and recruitment and hiring standards. The standards are the first of their kind in Ohio and were developed by the 12-member collaborative in August. [Read the press release.](#)

REGION IV NEWS

Millions of Californians Could Regain Driver's Licenses Under New Bill

The California Department of Motor Vehicles could suspend a driver's license only for serious traffic violations related to DUIs and reckless driving, under a new bill introduced to the Legislature last week by California Sen. Bob Hertzberg. [Read the full story at WW2.KQED.com.](#)

DMV Wants \$8 Million Annually to Expand Self-Service Terminals (California)

The California Department of Motor Vehicles is asking the state for \$8 million in 2016-17 and future years to expand its network of self-service terminals. [Read the full story at TechWire.net.](#)

Southern California Assemblyman Proposes Electronic License Plates, Insurance for Drones

Assemblymember Mike Gatto on Jan. 13 introduced legislation that would require license plates, shutoff technology and point-of-sale insurance policies for drones. [Read the full story at TechWire.net.](#)

Volunteer Drivers Sought To Participate In Mileage Fee Pilot Program (California)

Officials sought volunteer drivers Wednesday to participate in a multi-year mileage fee pilot program. [Read the full story at LosAngeles.CBSLocal.com.](#)

California DMV Creates Super Bowl 50 License Plates for NFL

To commemorate 50 years of Super Bowl history, DMV has produced 450 special edition license plates exclusively for this year's big event. The decorative black, silver and gold plates were created in partnership with the Super Bowl Host Committee and sent to the NFL last week. They'll be temporarily affixed to a fleet of Hyundai vehicles being used in association with the event. [Read the full story at GoldRushCam.com.](#)

Man Drives RV into Government Building (Utah)

A man frustrated by the suspension of his driver's license drove a recreational

vehicle directly into the main entrance of the state Driver License Division headquarters and then shot himself Wednesday afternoon, police said. [Read the full story at KSL.com.](#)

OTHER NEWS

Uber Prepares Meal-Delivery Service for 10 U.S. Cities

Uber Technologies Inc. is preparing to go live with a full-scale meal delivery service across 10 cities in the U.S., an expansion that will test the company's ability to use its drivers to move goods. [Read the full story at WSJ.com.](#)

Record 51 Million Vehicles Recalled Last Year, NHTSA Reports

Automobile recalls hit another record last year as stronger government enforcement and widening recalls of exploding air bags pushed the total above 51 million vehicles. [Read the full story at NBCNews.com.](#)

Study: Millennials Spurning Driver's Licenses

Young adults are ditching driver's licenses at a quickening pace, according to a new study, raising a red flag for automakers as they grapple with the emergence of ride-sharing services and an indifferent attitude about cars. [Read the full story at USAToday.com.](#)

Goggles to Teach Motorcyclists About Dangers of Riding High

Marijuana is legal in several states, and so the Motorcycle Safety Foundation wants to get the message out that toking up before taking a ride is a terrible idea. The group will soon launch the Riding Straight - Marijuana Awareness Host-An-Event Kit, which will simulate the significant dangers bikers face when riding stoned. [Read the full story at AutoBlog.com.](#)

Federal Government Wants to Lower Legal Alcohol Limit

The federal government says the legal alcohol limit should be lowered and wants states to change their impaired driving laws. [Read the full story at Fox8.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 "Twitter-town talk". You may be surprised at what you're missing! Follow @AAMVAConnection. (<http://twitter.com/#!/AAMVAConnection>)

- **Sgt. Philip Hensley @ISPJasper | [View the Tweet](#)**
I can't understand why drivers feel the need to blast around snow plows. It's like being a running back in football, snow plow = blocker!
- **Sgt. Todd Ringle @ISPEvansville | [View the Tweet](#)**
You want to be seen when you're driving in snow. Please activate your

headlights.

- **AASHTO @aashtospeaks | [View the Tweet](#)**
\$2B in earmark funds detailed in new document - that & more in-depth #transportation stories in the AASHTO Journal.
<http://www.aashtojournal.org>
- **Traffic Safety Cltn @TrafficSafetyCn | [View the Tweet](#)**
Red light cameras catching more runners according to Bakersfield PD, resident says tool makes drivers "more mindful" <http://ow.ly/XpbDy>
- **Zero Fatalities @ZeroFatalities | [View the Tweet](#)**
Know someone who texts while driving? Don't be afraid to speak up. No text is worth a wreck. #dontdrivedistractedUT
- **MoRevenue @MoRevenue | [View the Tweet](#)**
Three #Mo license office contracts have been awarded: #Clayton #Lebanon #Union <http://ow.ly/XprEY>
- **IDOT @IDOT_Illinois | [View the Tweet](#)**
Today's question: What is the #1 reason why you buckle up? #seatbelt #poll
- **Homeland Security @DHSgov | [View the Tweet](#)**
#Winterstorm tip from @fema: stay connected w/ friends/neighbors in case you lose power & need a warm place to go.
- **National LEL Program @nlelp | [View the Tweet](#)**
The Jan 2016 issue of The LEL newsletter is out. Lots of great examples that can be put into practice. <http://ow.ly/Xn5C5>
- **MTO @OntMinTransport | [View the Tweet](#)**
Be in the know this winter season: Equipment is deployed within 30 minutes of the start of a winter storm.
- **TeenDriverInfo @PSDP_Info | [View the Tweet](#)**
Study - It's not just teens who are foregoing Drivers Licenses.
<http://www.edmunds.com/...> ... @UMTRI @DrivingReal @AAMVAConnection @GHSAHQ
- **My Car Does What @MyCarDoesWhat | [View the Tweet](#)**
Check us out today at #WAS16! We are loving the auto safety trends featured at this year's show | @washautoshow
- **EndDD.org @end_dd | [View the Tweet](#)**
Study on teens' #textinganddriving expanding <http://bit.ly/1QIJmpQ>
_ @Safe_Roads @SafeWayRightWay @SafeDriver



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