New Date and Location Announced for 2019 Region 2 Conference!

The 2019 Region 2 Conference is changing dates and relocating to another hotel. The original hotel, JW Marriott, recently informed AAMVA that it will be undergoing highly disruptive construction during the original dates of the conference and this would lead to a less than optimal conference experience for attendees. The new dates of the Region 2 Conference are June 24 - 26, 2019 and the new hotel is the Marriott Marquis Houston located at 1777 Walker Street, Houston, TX 77010, 713.654.1777. Please take note that the new dates have shifted one day earlier. The hotel is currently working to get our room block open and we will advise you and update the website as soon as we have reservation information. We apologize for any inconvenience these changes cause. If you have any questions, please contact us at events@aamva.org.

AAMVA in the News

Upgrading Your Wallet: How Soon Can I Get a Digital Driver's License?

You're stopped by an officer on the highway who needs to see your driver's license. A bartender requests proof that you are of legal drinking age. The boarding agent at the airport needs to make sure you are who you say you are. You'd typically pull out your wallet to grab your driver's license. You reach for your smartphone instead. Such behavior isn't the norm – yet. But about a dozen states are in various stages of testing mobile or digital driver's licenses that operate on smartphones, according to the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA), which represents the departments of motor vehicles in North America that issue such licenses. Read more here.

Brandon M. Silk Honored with Hometown Bridge Dedication

Governor Janet Mills, the recently-elected governor of Maine, signed into law the first bill of her Administration honoring veteran Brandon M. Silk, who died in June 2010 in the line of duty while serving in Afghanistan. The resolve names the bridge in his home town Orono, Maine as the “Brandon M. Silk Memorial Bridge.” Brandon is the son of Mark Silk and bother of David Silk. Mark is the Chief Detective for the Maine Bureau of Motor Vehicles, a member of...
AAMVA's Law Enforcement Standing Committee, the former chair of the DMV Investigator Integration Working Group and a former member of the Vehicle Standing Committee. His son, David Silk, is a detective for the Maine Bureau of Motor Vehicles and the Vice-Chair of AAMVA's Internet Vehicle Sales Working Group. “While we can never repay Brandon’s sacrifice and service to our country and our state, enshrining his name on this bridge is a tribute to his life, his family, and his service to our country. It ensures that all those who enter his beloved home of Orono will know his name and his sacrifice for years to come,” said Governor Mills. “I hope that as the people of Orono and Brandon’s family drive across it, they will know our deep appreciation and everlasting gratitude for their son, and fellow Mainer's, service.”

AAMVA's Third Party Agents Working Group Seeks Your Input

The Third Party Agents Working Group has been tasked with developing interim guidance and a best practice document for administering and auditing third parties and vendors who process on behalf of jurisdiction agencies. At their first in-person meeting, the working group determined a survey would be needed to gather some information from AAMVA members. Responses will provide information to help working group members understand the current practices in place and related data. Please take a few minutes to provide your input before the March 29, 2019 deadline. Click here to access the survey.

Preparing for Automated Vehicles, Technical Assistance Now Available

Automated Vehicle Technical Assistance is available! AAMVA and NHTSA recognized the need to provide educational-based technical assistance to jurisdictions as they expand their understanding of vehicle technology and develop a strategy to address AV testing and deployment. Technical assistance will be facilitated by AAMVA and conducted by jurisdictional subject matter experts and AAMVA staff. The costs to provide the technical assistance will be funded by NHTSA. Click here for a complete description of the available assistance and an application.

This Week's Webinars

NMVTIS State Web Interface (SWI) – Understanding the Administrative Features
Tuesday, March 12, 2019, 2:00 - 3:00 pm (ET)

The NMVTIS SWI Web Application is used by the states to perform title verification and data corrections. This webinar focuses on how the states use the administrative features to oversee the states user community. A brief overview of the SWI application is also provided. The SWI application has been built so that each state manages their own user community. This includes configuring the system with organizations to which users are assigned. The state administrator is responsible for user role assignments and user account activation and deactivation. The SWI Application also includes a reporting component that allows state administrators to monitor user activity.

Note: This webinar is for AAMVA jurisdiction and federal members only.
AAMVA's The Week in Review for March 11, 2019

NMVTIS Suspense Resolution for Online States (Web Service Version) – Part 1
Wednesday, March 13, 2019, 2:00 - 3:00 pm (ET)
NMVTIS has two third party transactions that involve updates between the central site and multiple states. Because the transactions involve multiple states and the central site, it is possible for a transaction to break down before it completes. Further activity against this title record is greatly restricted until the problem is resolved. This webinar provides instruction as to how to identify and resume suspended transactions. The intended audience for this webinar are NMVTIS Help Desk Personnel, Business Process Analyst and IT System Integrators.

**Note:** This webinar is for AAMVA jurisdiction members only.

NMVTIS Suspense Resolution for Online States (AMIE Version) – Part 1
Thursday, March 14, 2019, 1:30 - 2:30 pm (ET)
NMVTIS has two third party transactions that involve updates between the central site and multiple states. Because the transactions involve multiple states and the central site, it is possible for a transaction to break down before it completes. Further activity against this title record is greatly restricted until the problem is resolved. This webinar provides instruction as to how to identify and resume suspended transactions. The intended audience for this webinar are NMVTIS Help Desk Personnel, Business Process Analyst and IT System Integrators.

**Note:** This webinar is for AAMVA jurisdiction members only.

Florida Highway Patrol to Participate in Operation Safe Drive
The Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) joined its southeastern law enforcement partners in the Operation Safe DRIVE (Distracted Reckless Impaired Visibility Enforcement) safety campaign. The Safe DRIVE campaign is a high visibility, education and enforcement initiative designed to deter behaviors that contribute to commercial and non-commercial motor vehicle crashes. 'FHP is committed to reducing the number of commercial vehicle-related crashes on Florida roadways and helping ensure motorists Arrive Alive,' said Colonel Gene Spaulding, Director of the Florida Highway Patrol. 'Motorists can reduce crashes if they share the roads safely, avoid aggressive driving behaviors and exercise additional caution when driving near larger vehicles.' Read more here.

MDOT MVA Adds More Than 2,700 Extra Appointments to Weekly Schedule to Address Real ID Customer Needs (Maryland)
With the October 1, 2020, deadline to get federally-required REAL ID driver’s licenses or ID cards, the Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration (MDOT MVA) has added more than 2,700 extra appointments a week. MDOT MVA has permanently added more than 1,900 appointments to its weekly schedule to address the needs of customers statewide. In addition, on March 6, eight branches that handle a high volume of driver’s license transactions added more than 800 appointments during extended hours on Tuesdays and Saturdays through May 4. Customers with appointments are guaranteed to be seen within 15 minutes of their scheduled time. 'MDOT MVA is committed to providing premier customer service to the citizens of Maryland,' said Administrator Chrissy Nizer. 'During high-volume periods, an appointment is a great way to ensure that you can complete your transaction quickly. We understand how valuable our customers’ time is and our goal is to make your visit to MDOT MVA as simple as possible.' Read more here.

Baker-Polito Administration, AAA Northeast and MADD Highlight Importance of Proposed Legislation to Improve...
Road Safety (Massachusetts)
Governor Charlie Baker, Registrar of Motor Vehicles Erin Deveney and Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver...were joined by AAA Northeast President and CEO John Galvin and Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Program Director Mary Kate Depamphilis to highlight the importance of the Baker-Polito Administration’s recently filed proposed road safety legislation, An Act Relative to Improving Safety on the Roads of the Commonwealth. Read more here.

MDOT Reminds Motorists to Be Alert as Clocks ‘Spring Forward’ (Michigan)
As clocks ‘spring forward’ to daylight saving time at 2 a.m. Sunday, March 10, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) reminds motorists to watch out for pedestrians, joggers, and bicyclists. Sunrise will occur one hour later, meaning that it will be darker later in the morning. 'Driving through school zones becomes more challenging for motorists during the first week of the time change,' said State Transportation Director Paul C. Ajegba. 'Pedestrians, joggers, and bicyclists should wear brighter, reflective clothing in order to be seen more easily, and those behind the wheel need to pay close attention and eliminate distractions while driving.' Read more here.

Extended DMV Hours at 75 Locations (Nebraska)
75 Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) Driver Licensing offices will extend their opening hours as part of a continuous improvement effort to provide a more effective, efficient, and customer-focused service. Following a review of the services provided at these locations, opportunities were identified to make the preparation duties more efficient, leaving additional time to serve customers. In order to provide testing, examiners at many of these locations are required to bring equipment and set it up upon arrival. Establishing a more efficient process to set up and take down this equipment means examiners can spend more time helping customers. ‘The desire to continually improve the services we provide is ingrained in the culture at the DMV,’ said Rhonda Lahm, Director of the Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles. ‘Reducing the time examiners spend on non-customer service tasks, frees up more time to serve Nebraska residents. The average additional time each office is open is around 30 minutes per location. The cumulative impact of this across the state is really quite significant.’ Read more here.

Governor Cuomo Urges Motorists to Avoid Drowsy Driving as Daylight Saving Time Begins (New York)
Governor Andrew M. Cuomo...reminded motorists of the dangers of drowsy driving as daylight saving time begins with clocks being set forward on Sunday, March 10, 2019, at 2 a.m. to 3 a.m. To raise awareness, the Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee and Department of Health will be holding ‘Stay Awake! Stay Alive!’ events at various SUNY campuses, and the National Road Safety Foundation has sponsored a 'Stay Awake! Stay Alive!' video public service announcement contest for students at these campuses as well...’Drowsy or fatigued driving is a risky driving behavior that puts you, your passengers, and all those sharing the road in danger,’ said Mark J.F. Schroeder, Acting Commissioner of the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles and Acting GTSC Chair. ‘All motorists should learn to recognize the signs of drowsy driving and take appropriate action, like pulling over to a safe rest area or letting someone else drive.’ Read more here.

Suspended Drivers Have Opportunity to Reduce Remaining Suspension Time During Week in March (South Carolina)
The SCDMV will hold the 2019 Driver Suspension Eligibility Week statewide for drivers with licenses suspended for various reasons Monday, March 18 through Friday, March 22, 2019. During the week, drivers licensed in South Carolina, who
lost their driving privileges due to certain suspensions, may be able to reduce or clear the remaining time of their suspension...'It's that time of year again at the SCDMV, and we want to make sure that every driver who can take advantage of this program is prepared to do so,' said Executive Director Kevin Shwedo. 'Driver Suspension Eligibility Week gives drivers the opportunity to get back on the road faster. It always occurs during the agency’s busiest time of year, so eligible drivers need to prepare now to make their visit smooth and efficient. Make sure you arrive with all required documents early in the week. As of 5 p.m. on Friday, March 22, you will not have this opportunity again until 2020.' Read more here.

Increased Fines and Demerits Target Unsafe Driving (Yukon Territory)
The Government of Yukon is taking action to address illegal and dangerous driving behaviour around school buses by increasing fines and demerits under the Summary Convictions Regulation and Motor Vehicles Regulations. Fines for drivers who fail to stop for a school bus that is receiving or discharging passengers have increased to $500 from $200. Fines for drivers who pass a bus illegally will also face a fine of $500, increased from $200. Demerit points for both offences have increased from five to eight points. Read more here.

FEDERAL NEWS

FMCSA Amends Entry-Level Driver Requirements for Applicants Upgrading Class B CDL for Class A CDL
The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has amended its Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT) regulations by adopting a new final rule revising commercial driver's license (CDL) theory instruction requirements for those upgrading a Class B CDL for a Class A CDL. The previous ELDT final rule had required the same level of theory training for individuals obtaining a CDL for the first time as those who already hold a Class B CDL and are upgrading to a Class A CDL. FMCSA has now concluded that because Class B CDL holders have prior training or experience, they are not required to receive the same level of theory training as individuals who have never held a CDL. Accordingly, FMCSA adds an optional theory instruction upgrade curriculum for Class B CDL holders upgrading to a Class A CDL, which removes eight instructional units involving "Non-Driving Activities." However, Class B CDL holders upgrading to a Class A CDL remain free to choose to complete the Class A theory instruction standard curriculum, which includes the eight units of theory instruction not included in the upgrade curriculum established by this rule. The rule applies only to Class B CDL holders; therefore, individuals obtaining a Class A CDL who do not already hold a Class B CDL must complete the full Class A theory (standard) curriculum, as required by the ELDT final rule. Read more here.

FMCSA Considers Elimination of Employment Application for Prospective Drivers
The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has issued an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) considering changes to the requirement to have prospective drivers complete an employment application. Through this ANPRM, FMCSA requests comment on the value and need for this requirement, as well as ways the requirement for an employment application could be changed to reduce the paperwork for drivers and motor carriers. FMCSA notes that this may include the complete elimination of the requirement. Read more here.

FMCSA Updates Regulatory Guidance
The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has issued updated regulatory guidance regarding Commercial Driver's License (CDL) standards, and State compliance with the CDL program. FMCSA is currently seeking comments...
on the deletion of 47 FMCSA guidance statements because either: the rule is clear and further guidance is not needed; the deleted guidance was unclear; the deleted guidance is duplicative of other guidance statements; or the guidance is obsolete due to rulemakings completed since the guidance was issued. Pages 8465 – 8468 list those guidance documents that have been modified, and the reason for the change. AAMVA also notes that beginning on page 8468 of the notice, FMCSA details updated guidance with respect to numerous state practices, including:

- 49 CFR 383.3 – Applicability
- 49 CFR 383.5 – Definition
- 49 CFR 383.21 – Number of Driver’s Licenses
- 49 CFR 383.23 – Commercial Driver’s License
- 49 CFR 383.31 – Notification of Convictions for Driver Violations
- 49 CFR 383.33 – Notification of Driver’s License Suspensions
- 49 CFR 383.37 – Employer Responsibilities
- 49 CFR 383.51 – Disqualification of Drivers - General Questions
- 49 CFR 383.51 – Disqualification of Drivers - Alcohol Questions
- 49 CFR 383.73 – State Procedures
- 49 CFR 383.75 – Third Party Testing
- 49 CFR 383.91 – Commercial Motor Vehicle Groups
- 49 CFR 383.93 – Endorsements
- 49 CFR 383.95 – Air Brake Restrictions
- 49 CFR 383.113 - Required Skills
- 49 CFR 383 – Special Topics CDL Requirements
- 49 CFR 384.209 – Notifications of Traffic Violations
- 49 CFR 384.231 – Satisfaction of State Disqualification Requirement

While these updates are effective immediately, FMCSA will consider comments and make necessary changes if comments demonstrate the need. Jurisdictions submitting comments are encouraged to copy governmentaffairs@aamva.org so that AAMVA may reflect those comments. Read more here.

SAVE Verifier – February 2019
SAVE published the fifth issue of their quarterly e-newsletter, SAVE Verifier. The newsletter gives benefit-granting agencies and applicants easy access to SAVE’s resources. Articles include:

- SAVE Provides Customized Webinars
- SAVE Participates in Federal Identity Forum and Expo
- SAVE Deploys New Survey
- SAVE Presents at Intergovernmental Roundtable
- Why Use the SAVE Logo?

Subscribe to the SAVE Verifier or visit uscis.gov/save. For further information contact Timothy Benz.

DOT Extends Guidance Review Comment Deadline
The Department of Transportation (DOT) is extending the comment period for its Notice of Review of Guidance by 30 days. The comment period was originally scheduled to end on April 8, 2019 and will now end on May 8, 2019. State agencies who file comments are encouraged to copy governmentaffairs@aamva.org so that we may reflect your comments in our own. Read more here.
CVSA's New 2019 Out-of-Service Criteria Now Available
The new 2019 North American Standard Out-of-Service Criteria goes into effect on April 1, 2019. The 2019 version replaces and supersedes all previous versions. If you do not have the 2019 version, you will be operating using outdated information. The North American Standard Out-of-Service Criteria is the pass-fail criteria for inspections. The criteria identifies critical vehicle inspection items and details the criteria that can prohibit a motor carrier or driver from operating a commercial motor vehicle for a specified period of time or until the condition is corrected. Read more here.

MADD Appoints Adam Vanek as CEO
MADD's Board of Directors has come to an unanimous decision to appoint Adam Vanek as CEO. Throughout his career, he has built a portfolio of transformational achievements in private, public and nonprofit corporations. He has extensive nonprofit experience, previously serving as National General Counsel for MADD and, more recently, Susan G. Komen in Dallas. During his previous tenure at MADD, from 2011 to 2017, Vanek led efforts to overhaul many core practices, policies and procedures. He also played a high-profile role in strengthening MADD's public image and influence, helping further MADD's mission through legal advocacy, jurisprudence and serving as legal expert in drunk driving and traffic safety. Read more here.