May 26, 2020

The 2020 AAMVA Annual International Conference scheduled for August 25-27, 2020 in Austin, TX, has been canceled due to health and safety concerns about COVID-19 (coronavirus) as well as continued travel bans. We are putting plans in place to hold a virtual Annual Membership Meeting in August. Attendees will need to cancel their own hotel and travel reservations. You can call the Hilton Austin at 512.482.8000 to cancel hotel reservations. For questions, please contact Samara Fetner (703.254.7020) or Dianne Graham (571.265.5573).

AAMVA Deploys SPEXS WebUI Reporting Portal
On Sunday, May 17th, AAMVA successfully deployed the new SPEXS WebUI Reporting Portal to Production environment. AAMVA is continually enhancing the Reporting Portal with the goal to make it easier to navigate and use. Among other things, the portal now includes new reports and also supports access for CDLIS-only states. The process to migrate existing users to the new portal is currently under way. AAMVA expects to start onboarding CDLIS-only states in Q3 2020. You can find more information about the new Reporting Portal as well as the system demo on the AAMVA website here.

AAMVA Seeking Jurisdiction Members for Standing Committees, Subcommittees, and Working Groups
AAMVA is seeking additional jurisdiction members for its 3 standing committees and 12 subcommittees and working groups, including the NEW E-Title Working Group. Participating in a committee, subcommittee or working group is an ideal way to influence policy, develop best practices, and network with peers. We anticipate there will be both virtual meetings and in-person meetings during FY2021. AAMVA pays travel expenses for all jurisdiction members to attend in-person meetings. Visit the Committees and Working Groups page for full information and links to the applications. AAMVA attempts to maintain jurisdictional and regional balance on all committees and working groups. Read more here.

AAMVA Holds NMVTIS Stakeholder Webinar
AAMVA held a webinar on May 21, 2020 in an effort to keep NMVTIS stakeholders engaged. It was the second meeting this fiscal year. Nearly 120 attendees from the broader stakeholder community participated including state motor vehicle and law enforcement agencies, salvage pools, recycling, auto auctions, dealers, insurance, consumers, data providers and consolidators, federal agencies, and independent organizations focused on reducing vehicle-related crimes. As the NMVTIS operator, AAMVA provided an update on system activities, as well as program and policy issues during an open forum with system stakeholders. DOJ also provided an update. The presentation and Q&A will be posted soon to AAMVA's website. Materials from the kick-off meeting held November 18, 2019 are already posted here.
This Week’s Webinars

Abandoned Vehicle & Mechanic’s Lien Fraud Prevention Best Practices
Wednesday, May 27, 2020, 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm (ET)

The processing of vehicle titles for abandoned and mechanic’s lien vehicles by motor vehicle agencies is an important and challenging process. Normally vehicle ownership information such as a title is missing and the motor vehicle agency relies on the customer’s word that they have a legal right to the vehicle. These vehicles can be nuisances to communities and consume considerable resources for motor vehicle agencies to process. In addition, those looking to take advantage process may find dishonest ways to acquire ownership that ultimately causes harm to lenders, industry, and the public. The AAMVA Abandoned Vehicle & Mechanic’s Lien Fraud Prevention Working Group developed a best practice document that provides over 70 recommendations for motor vehicle agencies to enhance their title process to detect and deter fraud while more efficiently processing title applications. Members of this working group will provide a detailed review of this best practice and highlight many of the recommendations included. This webinar is intended for motor vehicle agency staff responsible for the title issuance process and oversight of this process, motor vehicle agency investigators, and law enforcement officers. This webinar is for AAMVA jurisdiction and federal members only.

NMVTIS Suspense Resolution for Online States (AMIE Version) – Part 2
Thursday, May 28, 2020, 1:00 - 2:00 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.

Jurisdiction Response to COVID-19
Click here to view consolidated information and see how motor vehicle administrations are handling driver licensing and vehicle registration. This document will be updated with the most current information on our homepage.

Motor Vehicle Industry Response on COVID-19 Pandemic
Below are a selection of news releases and announcements regarding the effects of coronavirus on the motor vehicle community.

COVID-19 | REGION 1 NEWS COVERAGE

- CT Department of Motor Vehicles Amends Deadline Extensions (Connecticut)
- Cash Toll Collection to Resume Thursday, May 21, 2020 (Delaware)
- RMV Implements Further Credential Extensions (Massachusetts)
- MVC Agency, Inspection Station Closures Extended Until June 8: Headquarters, Online Services to Continue Operations (New Jersey)
- NJMVC Further Extends Driver License, Registration, and Inspection Expiration Dates Due to COVID-19 (New Jersey)
- Limited Services Available at Additional PennDOT Driver License and Photo License Centers in Yellow Phase Counties: Also Offering Designated Hours for Customers 60 and Older (Pennsylvania)
Best Practices

28 | NMVTIS Suspense Resolution for Online States (AMIE Version) – Part 2

JUNE

4 | NMVTIS Suspense Resolution for Online States (Web Service Version) – Part 1

9 | NMVTIS State Web Interface (SWI) – Understanding the Administrative Features

11 | NMVTIS Suspense Resolution for Online States (Web Service Version) – Part 2

16 | NMVTIS State Web Interface (SWI) – How to Correct Title and Brand Data on the Central Site

18 | NMVTIS Suspense Resolution for Online States (AMIE Version) – Part 1

23 | NMVTIS State Web Interface (SWI) – Instant Title Verification Using the VIN Search Feature

25 | NMVTIS Suspense Resolution for Online States (AMIE Version) – Part 2

REGISTER ONLINE!

OUR SURVEYS

Please respond to these surveys from Delaware, Iowa, Idaho, New Hampshire, Ontario, and Connecticut.

Reopening: Class D/base license skills/road exams (Ends 06/12/2020)

Customer Que System (Ends 05/29/2020)

New Fees and Additional Fees (Ends 05/29/2020)

Transmitting Convictions and Withdrawals (Ends 06/16/2020)

COVID-19 | REGION 2 NEWS COVERAGE

- DDS Notice of Public Hearing (Georgia)
- DTOP Extiende Vigencia de Licencias en Todas Sus Categorías Hasta el 31 de Agosto (Puerto Rico)
- SCDMV Resumes Skills Tests With Modifications (South Carolina)
- Driver License Offices to Reopen by Appointment Only with Limited Services, Additional Safety Measures Enacted (Texas)
- Regional Offices Reopening for In-Person Transactions (Texas)
- DMV to Open Five More Offices for Appointments Beginning Tuesday, May 26 (Virginia)
- West Virginia DMV Announces 10 Regional Offices Now Taking Appointments

COVID-19 | REGION 3 NEWS COVERAGE

- Jesse White Announces Reopening Plan with Expanded Hours Beginning June 1 & 2 for Driver Services Facilities (Illinois)
- Gov. Holcomb Takes Action to Prepare for Revenue Shortfalls (Indiana)
- BMV Administrative Fees to Resume July 1 (Indiana)
- DOR Customer Walk-In Centers Reopening for Appointment-Only Service (Indiana)
- What You Need to Know to Visit a Reopened DVS Location (Minnesota)
- 250,000 Drivers Eligible for Online Renewal (Wisconsin)

COVID-19 | REGION 4 NEWS COVERAGE

- MVD: Letters to Commercial License Holders Can Be Verified Online (Arizona)
- DMV Further Extends Expiring Drivers Licenses (California)
- Traffic Safety Benefits as More Californians Stay Home
- O’ahu Driver Licensing and State ID Services Restart by Appointment Only (Hawaii)
- ITD DMV and County Officials Urge Online Renewals as COVID-19 Closures Cause Substantial Backlog (Idaho)
- DMV Releases Reopening Plan; No Date Set (Nevada)

JURISDICTION NEWS

Maryland State Police Initiatives Target Speeding, Dangerous Drivers Across The State

Maryland State Police saturated roads with patrols from the Eastern Shore to Western Maryland in an effort to reduce speeding and crashes this past weekend. Overall, troopers, who represented 10 barracks, conducted a combined 541 traffic stops, issued 401 citations, 309 warnings, 25 safety equipment repair orders and made seven arrests between May 15 and 17. Read more at news.maryland.gov.

BMV Extends Hours for Primary Election Day (Indiana)

The Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) announced today branches will extend hours of operation for the primary election...Under Indiana state law, BMV branches are open to the public for extended hours on Election Day and the day before Election Day. To meet the requirements of this law the BMV will not require appointments for Hoosiers needing an ID for voting purposes. During this extended period of operation, service offerings are limited to new, amended, renewed, or replacement ID and driver's license for voting purposes. All other BMV services are not available June 1 and June 2. Read more at in.gov.
Memorial Day Weekend Marks Beginning of 100 Deadliest Days (Idaho)
Memorial Day weekend is the start of what's known as the "100 Deadliest Days of Summer", and this year the holiday weekend comes as fatality rates are increasing across the country. People may be driving less during the COVID-19 pandemic but that doesn't mean the roads are safer. Since March, the Idaho Transportation Department’s (ITD) traffic counts show less traffic, but new data released by the National Safety Council indicates higher fatality rates per miles driven. Read more at apps.itd.idaho.gov.

Troopers Honored for Impaired Driving Enforcement Efforts (Nebraska)
Several Nebraska State Troopers are among those being honored by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD). The annual MADD Heroes Awards are used to honor prevention, enforcement, and treatment efforts by law enforcement and probation officers throughout Nebraska. “DUI enforcement and education are pillars of the work done by agencies and safety partners across Nebraska to keep roads safe,” said Colonel John Bolduc, Superintendent of the Nebraska State Patrol. “MADD is one of the key players in this effort. We thank them for honoring our troopers' efforts and for their constant work to bring awareness to this important issue.” Read more at statepatrol.nebraska.gov.

Summer H.E.A.T. Kicks off With Obey the Sign or Pay the Fine (North Dakota)
Speeding isn't just aggressive driving, it's deadly driving. Law enforcement across the state will turn up the summer H.E.A.T. (Highway Enforcement of Aggressive Traffic) with extra patrols enforcing speed limits and removing aggressive drivers from the road as a part of the Obey the Sign or Pay the Fine enforcement campaign June 1-30. Read more at dot.nd.gov.

Motorcycle Fatality Increase a Cause for Concern (Washington)
For a motorcycle rider, what could be better than warm spring weather, sunny days, and open roads? For too many riders in Washington, recent lower traffic volumes have led to higher speeds and tragically, to an increase in rider deaths. In 2020, 12 of the 17 motorcycle fatalities on Washington roads occurred during the month of April. Speeding was a common factor in these almost always preventable collisions. Speed is usually the answer. Read more at wsp.wa.gov.

FEDERAL NEWS

CBO Releases Report on Reauthorizing Federal Highway Programs
The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) released a report entitled “Reauthorizing Federal Highway Programs: Issues and Options” discussing choices about revenues and spending that lawmakers face in addressing the shortfall in the Highway Trust Fund, as well as options for subsidizing state and local governments’ financing of highway projects. In 2019, federal spending for highways totaled $46 billion funded primarily by revenues credited to the Highway Trust Fund, which have fallen short of spending from the fund for more than a decade. If the taxes that are credited to the trust fund were continued at their current rates and funding for highway and transit programs increased annually at the rate of inflation, by 2030, the cumulative shortfall in the trust fund would reach $189 billion, according to the CBO’s latest baseline projections. Those projections, which are based on the economic forecast that CBO completed on January 7, 2020, do not account for the changes to the nation’s economic outlook and fiscal situation that have stemmed from the 2020 coronavirus pandemic. The current authorization for federal highway programs expires on
NHTSA National Local Radio Campaign Starts This Memorial Day Weekend
This summer-long nationwide radio campaign started airing over Memorial Day weekend. The goal of this campaign is to remind male drivers [18-34 years old] to follow highway traffic safety laws, using a new combined seat belt use, impaired driving prevention, distraction, and speed enforcement radio ad. All markets in the U.S. will be included in this media buy via multiple waves. First Wave: Alaska, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Idaho, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, Texas, and Washington. Read more at trafficsafetymarketing.gov.

NTSB Chairman Calls for Renewed Road Safety Effort as Nation Reopens
The National Transportation Safety Board is calling on Americans to practice highway safety with the same sense of responsibility they applied to reducing the spread of the coronavirus when they take to the nation’s roads as the country continues to reopen. In a “normal” year, more than 36,000 Americans are killed on our roads. While it is too early to tell what will happen to highway crash and fatality trends in the year of the pandemic, the desire to return to normality will increase the number of drivers on the road and that increases risk for highway users. Read more at ntsb.gov.

Motor Vehicle Fatality Rates Jump 14% in March Despite Quarantines, Says National Safety Council
Preliminary estimates from the National Safety Council show that as Americans began driving less and covering fewer miles, the emptier roads became more lethal. Early data indicate a year-over-year 14% jump in fatality rates per miles driven in March, in spite of an 8% drop in the total number of roadway deaths compared to March 2019. The actual number of miles driven dropped 18.6% compared to the same time period last year. The mileage death rate per 100 million vehicle miles driven was 1.22 in March compared to 1.07 in March 2019...“Disturbingly, we have open lanes of traffic and an apparent open season on reckless driving,” said Lorraine M. Martin, president and CEO of the National Safety Council. “Right now, in the midst of a global pandemic and crisis, we should take it as our civic duty to drive safely. If we won’t do it for ourselves, we should do it for our first responders, our law enforcement and our healthcare workers, who are rightly focused on coronavirus patients and should not be overwhelmed by preventable car crashes.” Read more here.

Governors Highway Safety Association Urges Adherence to Traffic Rules as States Begin to Reopen
In the wake of anticipated increased highway traffic nationwide as states reopen for business and recreational activities, GHSA is urging motorists to be careful. “Safe driving takes practice,” GHSA Executive Director Jonathan Adkins said. “Many of us may be a little rusty behind the wheel, so it’s critical that drivers give the road and everyone on it their complete attention. Safety doesn’t take a holiday. Remember to buckle up, drive sober, stow your cell phone, and watch your speed. We have lost too many of our friends and neighbors, and we do not want to lose any more to traffic crashes.” Read more at ghsa.org.

TRB Webinar: Forecasting Zero Emission Vehicles Fleet Scenarios & Emissions Implications
How will future vehicle Zero Emission Vehicles (ZEV) fleet scenarios affect emissions of criteria pollutants, mobile source air toxics, and greenhouse gases? TRB will conduct a webinar on Tuesday, June 30 from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM that will discuss research on future vehicle fleet scenarios’ effect on emissions. Presenters will review literature and modeling analysis on U.S. ZEV adoption. The work provides insights encouraging the adoption of ZEVs such as electric or fuel cell vehicles with implications for state departments of transportation and metropolitan planning organizations seeking to make policy decisions to advance penetration of ZEVs into the light-duty vehicle fleet. Presenters will also discuss future research suggestions. Read more at trb.org.

**TRB Webinar: Traffic Trends and Safety in a COVID-19 World**

In the days of coronavirus disease (COVID-19), we are seeing a reduction in overall traffic volumes and crash-related injuries and fatalities. What are the nuances of this situation, and what lessons can we learn to advance transportation safety research and practice? TRB is hosting a webinar on Tuesday, June 2, 2020, from 1:00 to 2:30 PM Eastern that will explore the impacts of COVID-19 on traffic crashes and overall highway safety conditions. This webinar is cosponsored by the Pacific Southwest Region University Transportation Center at the University of Southern California. The presenters will discuss lessons learned from the changes in traffic and safety conditions as a result of COVID-19, and identify how to leverage these changes to improve traffic safety in the future. Read more at trb.org.

**Save the Date: Lifesavers Conference 2020 Webinar Series**

The Lifesavers Conference was cancelled due to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) outbreak. We had hoped to proceed with the conference in Tampa, but the safety and well-being of our speakers, vendors, attendees, and event staff is of the utmost importance and always our priority. Lifesavers is using this as an opportunity to innovate and continue with our mission to disseminate current information to traffic safety professionals across the country. Lifesavers is excited to announce that for the very first time will be conducting the “Lifesavers Conference 2020 Webinar Series.” This series will highlight presentations from various Lifesavers Conference tracks addressing hot-topics, latest trends, and cutting-edge programs. Read more here.