

AAMVA's The Week in Review – March 11, 2013

AAMVA Working Group Releases "Best Practice Guide to Reducing Suspended Drivers"

The suspension of driving privileges has been used for decades to address poor driving behavior, and research has proven that it can be effective in reducing traffic crashes. However, what was originally intended as a sanction to address poor driving behavior is now used as a mechanism to gain compliance with non-highway safety, or social non-conformance, reasons. Drivers are now commonly suspended for reasons such as bounced checks, fuel theft, truancy, vandalism and many more. Some studies have shown that suspending driving privileges for non-highway safety related reasons is not effective. The costs of arresting, processing, administering, and enforcing these types of driver's license suspensions create a significant strain on budgets and other resources and detract from highway and public safety priorities. Eliminating driver's license suspensions for non-highway safety violations will significantly reduce the burden on departments of motor vehicles (DMV's), law enforcement, the courts and society. AAMVA's Suspended/Revoked Working Group recommends that legislatures repeal laws requiring the suspension of driving privileges for non-highway safety related violations. To that end, the Working Group recently released the "Best Practice Guide to Reducing Suspended Drivers." [Download the document](#) today to learn more about the Suspended/Revoked issue, and how jurisdictions can reduce the number of suspended drivers due to social non-conformance. [Watch a video](#) for a quick snapshot of the suspended and revoked issue.



2013 Workshop & Law Institute Kicks Off

AAMVA's 2013 Spring Workshop and Law Institute takes place this week, March 12-13 in Atlanta! The Workshop and Law Institute is designed for front-line managers of motor vehicle and law enforcement agencies, legal services professionals responsible for motor vehicle and law enforcement matters, and private industry safety partners. If you haven't registered yet, you can register on-site in Atlanta. Learn more on the [event Web site](#).

Apply Now for the 2013 PACE Awards

AAMVA's PACE Awards Program recognizes public relations, public affairs and consumer education excellence among the motor vehicle, law enforcement and traffic safety agencies across North America. They recognize creativity, cost effectiveness and the ability to reach consumers with a well crafted, measured and executed message. [Take a look at the full list of categories and complete the 2013 PACE Awards Application form, available here.](#) To apply, complete the first page of the document, the questionnaire on the second page, and include any supporting documentation or materials. Please limit your entries to no more than six submissions to allow us to properly evaluate all the entries we receive. Entries must be submitted (postmarked) by **March 25, 2013**. For more information, contact Claire O'Brien at cobrien@aamva.org. And take a look at some of last year's winners at <http://www.aamva.org/PACE-Award-Winners/>

Apply Now for the Martha Irwin Award for Lifetime Achievement in Highway Safety

The Martha Irwin Award for Lifetime Achievement in Highway Safety is presented annually to an AAMVA member jurisdiction employee, or other individual whose primary function is directly associated with highway and traffic safety efforts.

Nomination Guidelines

- AAMVA member jurisdiction employees, or other individuals whose primary function is motor vehicle or highway safety, are eligible.
- Interested jurisdictional members are encouraged to submit nominations to their chief motor vehicle or chief law enforcement administrator who will then submit one nominee per jurisdictional agency to AAMVA Director of Law Enforcement Brian Ursino at bursino@aamva.org.

[Click here for the 2013 Martha Irwin Award nomination form.](#) Nominations must be received by **April 30, 2013**.

For more information, contact [Brian Ursino](#) via email or at 703-350-5103.

AAMVA Webinar: Introduction to the International Non-AppORTioned Commercial Vehicle Agreement (INCVA)

AAMVA's next Webinar will take place on March 20th from 2-3 p.m. (ET). The webinar will provide an introduction to an agreement that has been developed by an IRP, INC task force. The purpose of the agreement is to provide full and free registration reciprocity for those commercial vehicles that are ineligible for registration under the International Registration Plan (IRP) and for those commercial vehicles for which registration under the IRP is optional. Register online at <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/750018817>

Become a Friend of AAMVA's Facebook Page

If you want to keep up on happenings at AAMVA, make sure to "Like" our Facebook page. Once you're logged on to Facebook, go to www.facebook.com/aamva and "Like" our page to stay current with all things AAMVA. Take a peek at photos, stay tuned to AAMVA event information, and keep in touch with AAMVA and colleagues across the world.

Webinar: "Vehicle Identifier Requirements for Graduated Driver Licensing: A Case Study in New Jersey"

Findings in a study, "**Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) Decal Law: Effect on Young Probationary Drivers**" published by the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia suggest that New Jersey's GDL decal law is positively affecting probationary drivers' safety. The results of this study contribute to building the evidence base for the effectiveness of decal laws and provide valuable information to U.S. and international policymakers who are considering adding decal laws to enhance existing GDL laws. Want to know more about New Jersey's novel program? Mark your calendars now to participate in the Webinar about GDL identifiers and the NJ experience being hosted by the Network for Public Health Law on **Thursday, March 21, 2013 from 1 - 2 p.m. (ET)**. Click on the link below to register for the event.

http://www.networkforphl.org/network_resources/webinar_series/

Traffic Safety Community Calls on Congress to Fully Fund Highway Safety Grant Programs

Six major highway safety organizations called on Congress to fully fund the Priority Highway Safety Grant Program, known as Section 405, when Congress considers funding for the remainder of FY 2013. Section

405 provides performance-based incentive funding for states to address key areas of highway safety that include impaired driving, distracted driving, occupant protection, motorcycle safety, traffic records and improving graduated driver licensing laws. The Section 405 program, authorized under the recently enacted surface transportation legislation known as MAP-21, did not increase federal spending for highway safety. It merely took existing budget authority under other incentive grant programs and re-packaged it into a single consolidated grant program. Last year Congress passed a six month Continuing Resolution (CR) to keep the federal government funded through March 27. Unfortunately, this legislation failed to include a funding change, known as an anomaly, for the Section 405 program. If Congress fails to provide funding for this program in the next Continuing Resolution, it would constitute a 53% reduction in funding to states to improve the safety of drivers and other road users. Highway safety funding would be at levels not seen since the 1980's. Read more at <http://www.ghsa.org/html/media/pressreleases/2013/20130304funds.html>.

2013 National Roadway Safety Awards Call for Nominations

The National Roadway Safety Awards is a biennial competition sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Roadway Safety Foundation (RSF) to recognize roadway safety achievements that move the United States towards zero deaths and serious injuries on the Nation's roadways. Deadline for nominations is March 31, 2013. For full information, visit <http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/roadwaysafetyawards/>.