New Administrators Meet at AAMVA Headquarters

Thirteen new administrators came to AAMVA headquarters last week for New Administrators’ Orientation. AAMVA President & CEO Neil Schuster, AAMVA Chair Jennifer Cohan, and AAMVA staff gave the new administrators a briefing on how the association works and the resources AAMVA provides to help in their home jurisdictions. It was a great way to welcome the new administrators and help them get more familiar with AAMVA. Learn more in this video!

Webinar: Best Practices for Three-Wheel Vehicle Regulation

Register now for the upcoming AAMVA webinar, Best Practices for Three-Wheel Vehicle Regulation, Wednesday, December 18, 2013, 2:00 - 3:00 PM (EST). Learn more about the newly-released best practices and recommendations developed by AAMVA’s Three-Wheel Vehicle Working Group for defining the different types of three-wheel vehicles, for registering them and licensing the operators of these vehicles. Join speakers Scott Shenk, Division Chief for Driver Licensing, Pennsylvania Safety Administration; Ronnie Saunders, Captain/Safety Officer, Virginia State
Police; and host Cathie Curtis, Director of Vehicle Programs, AAMVA for this webinar discussion. Register today!

Get Ready for the 2014 Workshop and Law Institute

Save the date for the 2014 AAMVA Workshop and Law Institute, March 11-13, 2014 in St. Louis, MO. Meet up with motor vehicle administrators, law enforcement professionals, and industry partners for three days of informative sessions, great networking opportunities, and much more. Join us at St. Louis’ Union Station Hotel Doubletree by Hilton - visit http://www.aamva.org/2014-Workshop-Home-Page for more information and to register, and find out more in this video!

Apply to Join Ignition Interlock Working Group

AAMVA is forming an Ignition Interlock Working Group to:

- Review available Blood Alcohol Ignition Interlock Device (BAIID) scientific/evidence based research;
- Review various BAIID programs administered by motor vehicle administrations and state police/highway patrol agencies;
- Extract and compile best and most promising practices focusing on areas of ignition interlock administration based upon scientific evidence based research, practices from various ignition interlock programs administered by motor vehicle administrations and state police that fall within the purview of our members;
- Conduct a gap analysis comparing AAMVA’s and the Association of Ignition Interlock Program Administrators (AIIPA) recommendations to identify and develop model program aspects outside the mission scope of AIIPA;
- Review AIIPA program recommendations for potential inclusion in an AAMVA published national model program document.

AAMVA is seeking the following representatives to serve on the working group:

- Two law enforcement representatives from the AAMVA jurisdictions,
- one ignition interlock representative with program and/or policy experience from each AAMVA region,
If you are interested in serving on this working group, please complete the application and return it to AAMVA by December 16, 2013.
For additional information about the working group, please contact Brian Ursino at (703) 350-5103.

DPS Administrators to Discuss Real ID during IACP Meeting

Department of Public Safety (DPS) administrators from around the United States will be gathering in New Orleans, LA, in March 2014. According to Cabinet Secretary Trevor Jones of the South Dakota Department of Public Safety, a part of their discussion will be implementation of the REAL ID act of 2009. He and other commissioners, directors, and secretaries -- including Director John Born from Ohio and Commissioner Keith Squires from Utah are encouraging all DPS administrators to come together to share ideas and best practices. They are holding a conference call on January 14th, 2014 at 8:30 a.m. CDT. This will be their sixth conference call and there are currently 11 state DPS representatives on the call-in roster. If you are a DPS administrator and wish to participate in this call, or for more information on the March 2014 meeting, contact Secretary Jones at trevor.jones@state.sd.us or 605-773-3178.

FMCSA Launches Annual "Be Ready. Be Buckled." Safety Belt Art Contest for Kids

The U.S. Department of Transportation’s Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) announced the launch of the 2014 "Be Ready. Be Buckled." student art contest organized by the Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Belt Partnership. Open to students in kindergarten through sixth grade with relatives or sponsors in the commercial truck and bus industries, the contest educates kids about highway safety and urges commercial drivers to buckle up on every trip. FMCSA will accept contest submissions through Feb. 28, 2014. Students can submit their artwork by mail to the following address:

CMV Safety Belt Partnership
c/o CVSA
Attention: Lisa Claydon
6303 Ivy Lane, Suite 310
Greenbelt, MD 20770

Artwork will be evaluated in two categories: one for kindergarten through second grade, and another for third through sixth grade. Twelve winners will be selected in March 2014 and their artwork will appear in the 2015 "Be Ready. Be Buckled." contest calendar. All 12 students will also be honored at a ceremony at USDOT headquarters to be held in the spring. To learn more about the "Be Ready. Be Buckled." contest, visit: http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/safety-security/safety-belt/index.htm.

MAP-21 Comprehensive Truck Size and Weight Limits Study Public Meeting and Outreach Sessions

The Transportation Research Board Committee for Review of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Truck Size and Weight Limits Study will hold an outreach session to provide an update on the progress of the MAP-21 Comprehensive Truck Size and Weight Limits Study. The Public Meeting will
be held on December 18, 2013 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., Eastern. For more information, see the federal register.

**Highway Primary Freight Network - Input Requested**

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has detailed a draft initial designation of the highway Primary Freight Network (PFN). Relevant maps and tables are posted on the FHWA Freight website, here. A 30-day comment period on the draft designation will end on December 19, 2013. FHWA is seeking input from all interested parties. Please review the methodology outlined in the notice, maps and tables and provide written input to the docket (as described in the notice). As a supplement to the notice, FHWA hosted a Talking Freight webinar on the draft highway PFN on Friday, December 6. Visit the Talking Freight Archives for more information.

**NHTSA Announces New 5-Year Traffic Safety Plan and Guidelines for Older Drivers and Passengers**

The U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) announced a new strategic plan that will serve as a roadmap to ensure the safety of our nation's growing population of older drivers and passengers. In 2012, according to NHTSA's latest issue of Safety in Numbers, 5,560 people over the age of 65 died, and 214,000 were injured in motor vehicle crashes. Those figures represent a 3 percent increase in the number of fatalities and a 16 percent increase in the number of injuries from the previous year. The data also show that older adults are at greater risk of dying or sustaining serious injuries, even in low-severity crashes. To address these concerns, NHTSA is focusing on the following:

- **Vehicle Safety**: NHTSA is researching a number of advanced vehicle technologies including vehicle-to-vehicle communications, collision avoidance and crashworthiness, that could help reduce the risk of death or injury to older occupants in the event of a crash. Crash avoidance technologies will benefit all drivers, but may be of special assistance to older drivers, while certain crashworthiness improvements could help address the special vulnerabilities of older occupants. The agency is also considering upgrades to its New Car Assessment Program, including a new "Silver" rating system for older occupants.

- **Improved Data Collection**: NHTSA is refining its data collection systems and will continue to evaluate crash rates, real-world injuries, as well as physical, cognitive and perceptual changes associated with driver behaviors. In addition, NHTSA plans to conduct clinical and naturalistic driving studies to better understand the effects of age-related medical conditions, including dementia.

- **Driver Behavior**: Recognizing that age alone is not a determining factor for safe driving, NHTSA continues to focus its efforts on public education and identifying functional changes including vision, strength, flexibility and cognition to help at-risk drivers. This effort includes first-of-its-kind Older Driver Highway Safety Program Guidelines, released today, that states can implement to keep older people safely mobile.

For more information, visit NHTSA.gov.
The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has published a proposal in the Federal Register to improve the quality and uniformity of violation data across FMCSA systems. The proposed changes will allow court outcomes on contested citations to be incorporated in the Agency's Motor Carrier Management Information System (MCMIS) database. These changes would impact how violations are displayed and used in the Safety Measurement System (SMS) and the Pre-Employment Screening Program (PSP). The Agency is proposing that, in early 2014, motor carriers and drivers could request inclusion of adjudication information for citations associated with violations in MCMIS inspection reports by submitting Requests for Data Review (RDRs) through FMCSA's DataQs system (https://dataqs.fmcsa.dot.gov). Motor carriers and drivers would have to upload court outcome documentation in order for the States to review the RDRs and record the court outcomes. FMCSA's SMS and PSP would, correspondingly, reflect court outcomes. These systems would retain the violation when it resulted in a conviction; remove the violation when found not guilty or the violation was dismissed; and indicate the violation when the court outcome shows a conviction of a different charge. When the court outcome shows a conviction of a different charge, the SMS severity weight tied to the violation will be reduced to the lowest possible value (1). The Federal Register Notice provides additional information about FMCSA's proposed new processes for documenting in its data systems. The 30-day comment period will end on January 2, 2014. We encourage your feedback on the proposed changes. (https://federalregister.gov/a/2013-28795)