Happy Holidays from AAMVA!

From all of us at the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators, have a joyful and healthy holiday season. And we would like to wish everyone the best in the coming new year! In light of the holiday schedule, AAMVA will not be sending out The Week in Review (TWIR) on Monday, December 30th. Look for the next issue of TWIR in your inboxes on Monday, January 6th.

Webinar Archive: Best Practices for Three-Wheel Vehicle Regulation

Did you miss last week's webinar on three-wheel vehicles? Visit AAMVA's Webinar Archive to see the discussion. 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. Visit the Webinar Archive for more information.

Register for the 2014 AAMVA Workshop and Law Institute

Register now to join us in St. Louis, MO. For the 2014 AAMVA Workshop and Law Institute, March 11-13. 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!

DHS Announces Real ID Enforcement Plans

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced the phased enforcement plan for the Real ID Act of 2005. DHS notes that enforcement measures will occur in phases, and that each enforcement measure is cumulative, with measures in each phase remaining in effect through successive phases. Each phase will begin with a 3-month period where agencies will provide notice to individuals attempting to use driver's licenses or identification cards from noncompliant states but still allow access. After this period is over, agencies will no longer accept such identification for entry to Federal facilities, and individuals will need to follow the agency's alternate procedures (to be made available by the agency). More details are available in a December 20th Legislative Alert issued by AAMVA. AAMVA will be scheduling a webinar with DHS officials early in the year for members to ask questions and further discuss this announcement. Learn more in this DHS brief on Real ID enforcement.

Comment Deadline Extended: Comprehensive Truck Size and Weight Limits Study

The FHWA is extending the deadline and comment period for materials related to the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) Comprehensive Truck Size and Weight Limits Study to January 17, 2014. For full information, see the Federal Register.
FMCSA Publishes Proposed Change to Vision Exemption Program Criteria

On December 18th, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) published a proposed change to the vision exemption program criteria and requested comments on those changes. According to the notice, FMCSA has proposed changes to the eligibility requirements for FMCSA’s Vision Exemption Program, noting that obtaining an exemption enables an individual to operate commercial motor vehicles in interstate commerce without satisfying all of the prescribed vision standards. FMCSA has determined that the proposed changes in the eligibility criteria and conditions for the Vision Exemption Program will continue to ensure a level of safety that is equivalent to, or greater than, the level of safety maintained under the existing criteria. AAMVA requests states review the proposed changes to vision exemptions and submit any comments you have to the docket before January 17th. Please also submit any comments you have to AAMVA’s Senior Manager of Government Affairs, Cian Cashin, at ccashin@aamva.org so that we can compile state interests with those AAMVA submits to the docket.

AAA: Holiday Travel Expected To Increase For The Fifth Consecutive Year To 94.5 Million Travellers

AAA projects 94.5 million Americans will journey 50 miles or more from home during the year-end holiday season, an increase of 0.6 percent from the 94 million people who traveled last year. This upward trend marks the fifth consecutive year of increases and the highest travel volume recorded for the season. The year-end holiday period is defined as Saturday, December 21 to Wednesday, January 1. According to AAA, ninety-one percent of travelers - 85.8 million - are expected to travel by automobile, and nearly 30 percent of all Americans will take a trip this holiday, with more than one in four taking a road trip. For more on the AAA Year-End Holidays Travel Forecast, visit http://newsroom.aaa.com/tag/holiday-travel/.

U.S. Department of Transportation Announces 'Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over' Holiday Crackdown

U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx and National Highway Traffic Safety Administrator David Strickland kicked off the annual “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” winter holiday crackdown on drunk and drugged driving, along with representatives from local law enforcement, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA). To further deter drunk driving, NHTSA released a “Model Guideline for State Ignition Interlock Programs” that will help states develop and implement a breath alcohol ignition interlock program based on highly successful practices from the U.S. and around the world. Visit NHTSA.gov for more information.

Teen Driver Crash Fact Sheet

The Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute at North Dakota State University has released a fact sheet that summarizes trends in teenage driver crashes between 2002 and 2012. For more information, visit here.

UNMC National Study: Distracted Driving Killing More Pedestrians, Bicyclists
From texting and talking on cell phones to eating while driving, researchers say distracted driving is a serious public health threat. Though motor vehicle deaths have been declining nationally, a recent study by researchers at the University of Nebraska Medical Center found that deaths in pedestrians and cyclists are increasing. From 2005 to 2010, the national number of pedestrians struck and killed by distracted drivers went up from 344 to 500—an almost 50 percent increase. For cyclists, the numbers killed went from 56 to 73—a 30 percent increase. The report, published in Public Health Reports November-December issue, documents trends and characteristics of pedestrians, bicyclists, and other victim deaths caused by distracted drivers on U.S. public roads. The report does not document injuries. For more information, visit here.

**NHTSA Expected to Announce Vehicle-to-Vehicle, Advanced Braking Plans by End of Year**

As the year comes to a close, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is expected to announce plans regarding advanced braking systems and vehicle-to-vehicle (V2V) communications. According to The Detroit News, NHTSA is due to clarify whether it will make advanced braking systems and vehicle-to-vehicle communications requirements for cars and trucks in "the coming days." For more information, visit DailyTech.