

January 24, 2014 - Regional News

AAMVA News

Webinar: Best Practices for Reconstructed & Replica Vehicles

Register now for the upcoming AAMVA webinar, Best Practices for Reconstructed and Replica Vehicles, Wednesday, January 22nd from 2:00 - 3:00 pm (EST). The discussion will be hosted by Cathie Curtis (AAMVA) and presented by Mark Francis (British Columbia), Paul Nilsen (Wisconsin), and Douglas Hooper (Georgia). Reconstructed and replica vehicles are presenting unique challenges for DMV policy makers and program managers. This webinar will provide an explanation of the recently developed best practices (<http://www.aamva.org/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=4752&libID=4729>) by AAMVA's Unconventional Vehicles Working Group. Register now (<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/351807296>) to join the discussion and get an overview of the issue in this video (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cldLfDxpkT8&list=UUrW3jQf3p_25zeK9EQbCrAA&feature=share&index=2).

Region I

Sen. Jennings' Drunk Driving Legislation Requires Offenders Attend Education Program at Shock Trauma (Maryland)

Senator J.B. Jennings introduced legislation that requires any person who is convicted of, or granted probation before judgment (PBJ) for drunk driving offenses, to attend an educational program offered by the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center at the University of Maryland Medical System. Read the full story at [DaggerPress.com](http://www.daggerpress.com)

<http://www.daggerpress.com/2014/01/20/sen-jennings-drunk-driving-legislation-requires-offenders-attend-education-program-at-shock-trauma/>

Rachel Kaprielian will replace Joanne Goldstein as Massachusetts Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development (Massachusetts)

Secretary of the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development Joanne Goldstein is leaving state government to take a job as an associate vice president of Northeastern University. Gov. Deval Patrick will appoint Registrar of the Registry of Motor Vehicles Rachel Kaprielian to take her place. Read the full article on [masslive.com](http://www.masslive.com).

http://www.masslive.com/politics/index.ssf/2014/01/rachel_kaprielian_will_replace.html

Lawmakers Kill Bill to Spy on Motorists with License Plate Scanners (New Hampshire)

Touting the privacy rights of New Hampshire citizens, House members Wednesday voted overwhelmingly — 250-97 — to kill a bill that would have allowed police to use license plate scanners, and then banned the issue for the rest of the session. With the House vote, New Hampshire continues to be the only state in the country to prohibit the use of license plate scanners. Collecting license plate information at toll booths and bridges is allowed. Read the full story in the Union Leader.

<http://www.unionleader.com/article/20140116/NEWS06/140119475>

New York Audit Faults Commercial Vehicle Oversight

New York auditors say the Department of Transportation failed to adequately monitor whether commercial vehicles taken off the road for safety violations actually got needed repairs. Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli says lax oversight could put New York motorists in jeopardy. Read the full story at Newsday.com.

<http://www.newsday.com/news/region-state/ny-audit-faults-commercial-vehicle-oversight-1.6860301>

Region II

Oklahoma License Plate Lawsuit Dismissed in Federal Court (Oklahoma)

A lawsuit claiming that the current Oklahoma license plate is a violation of a Methodist minister's First Amendment rights and a promotion of "pantheism" was dismissed in federal court on January 1. Read the full story in Indian Country Today.

<http://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com/2014/01/21/oklahoma-license-plate-lawsuit-dismissed-federal-court-153179>

Region III

Over 91 Percent of Illinois CDL Holders Have Complied with Federal CDL Medical Merge Program

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White announced today that more than 420,000 Illinois CDL holders have successfully complied with the new federal CDL/Medical merge program. This represents over 91 percent of all CDL holders in Illinois. Those not complying by Jan 30 risk losing their CDL privileges. Read the press release for more details.

<http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/news/2014/january/140123d1.pdf>

BMV OPLATES Reaches Ten Million Registration Transactions

The Bureau of Motor Vehicles' Ohio Public Licensing Access through Electronic Services (OPLATES) Website has reached ten million registration transactions. OPLATES was developed to offer Ohioans the ability to perform registration transactions via internet and telephone. Since the first online registration transaction on September 20, 2000, OPLATES.com has grown in productivity and enhancements.

<http://www.publicsafety.ohio.gov/links/MR2014/01-23-BMV-TENMILLIONOPLATES.pdf>

Driving Distractions Get Lawmakers' Attention (Iowa)

A public safety officer came to the Legislature on Wednesday armed with statistics related to inattentive driving problems. But it was unclear whether lawmakers are willing to move beyond the current balance between safety concerns and individual freedom this session. Read the full article in the Global Gazette.

http://globegazette.com/driving-distractions-get-lawmakers-attention/article_9dc2c71b-d0b7-5ecc-9fd5-96cd6ff3bbb1.html

Region IV

2 Arrested for Preaching at DMV Office Can Sue (California)

A federal judge has agreed to reopen a lawsuit filed by two men who were arrested while preaching at a Riverside County DMV office. Brett Coronado and Mark Mackey, formerly of Calvary Chapel in Hemet, had sued a Highway Patrol officer who arrested them in 2011 as they read Bible verses outside the local DMV office. Read the full story at MercuryNews.com.

http://www.mercurynews.com/california/ci_24938158/2-arrested-preaching-at-dmv-office-can-sue

Veteran License Plates are Back (California)

California veterans can again display their status on their license plates. A new law brought back the California specialty license plates back at the request of veterans. The license plates had been available but were replaced by an "Honoring Veterans" version. "Honoring Veterans" license plates are still available for non-veterans. Read the full story in the Press Democrat.

<http://roadwarrior.blogs.pressdemocrat.com/18587/veteran-license-plates-are-back/>

California Gears up for Driver's License Law

After passing a law in October that will allow undocumented immigrants to apply for driver's licenses, California is preparing for the influx of applications. An estimated 1.4 million to 2 million people will be eligible to apply under the new law that takes effect on or before Jan. 1, 2015. That law, AB 60, requires the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to issue driver's licenses to undocumented immigrants and design a card approved by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) that is consistent with the federal Real ID Act. Read the full story at BalGlobal.com

<http://www.balglobal.com/News/NewsDetail/tabid/266/id/3203/language/en-US/UNITED-STATES-California-gears-up-for-drivers-license-law.aspx>

Bill Would Outlaw Sale of License-Plate Camera Data (California)

State Sen. Jerry Hill, D-San Mateo, has introduced a bill that would prevent law enforcement agencies from selling data gathered by license-plate-reading cameras to private parties, such as parking and car-repossession companies. The city of Menlo Park has bought license-plate readers but does not plan to use them until a privacy policy is approved, and one of the clauses of the policy is supposed to address the sale of data. Read the full story at TheAlmanac.com.

<http://www.almanacnews.com/print/story/2014/01/15/bill-would-outlaw-sale-of-license-plate-camera-data>

Colorado to Launch “Don’t Drive Stoned” Ads with Federal Funding

Colorado will warn motorists against driving stoned in a campaign backed by \$430,000 in new federal funding, officials said on Monday, two weeks after the first U.S. recreational marijuana retail shops opened in the state. Read the full story at Google.com.

https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=newssearch&cd=10&cad=rja&ved=0CEAQgQIoADAJ&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.thedailychronic.net%2F2014%2F27190%2Fcolorado-launch-dont-drive-stoned-ads-federal-funding%2F&ei=iy3hUoSIB6e0sATpjiCwDw&usg=AFQjCNEUVbbr46VXZp9_QI_bTRCnH-paRA&sig2=l0-lnubcCDDWUfzR7vR5EQ

DMV Waives Drive Test for Those in Driver Ed Class (Oregon)

Beginning in January 2014, Oregon DMV will waive the drive test for provisional driver licenses if the applicant completes a state-approved driver education program. Students who pass the driving test in the driver education program will receive a plastic card certifying their successful completion. When they bring that card to DMV and meet all the other requirements for driving privileges, they won't be required to take the DMV drive test. Read the full story in the Portland Tribune.

<http://portlandtribune.com/fgnt/36-news/208199-62135-dmv-waives-drive-test-for-those-in-driver-ed-class>

Oregon's Unlicensed, Uninsured Driving Rates Almost Unchanged Since 2008 Law Tightening Identification Requirements

The rate of Oregon drivers who are unlicensed and uninsured remains largely unchanged since a 2008 law tightened identification requirements to obtain driver's licenses, a state report shows. Read the full story in The Oregonian.

http://www.oregonlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2014/01/oregons_unlicensed_uninsured_d.html

SGI Showing Extra Interest in People Driving Out of Province; Updated Residency Rules are More Flexible But Use More Information (Saskatchewan)

When you go to renew your license plate you might notice that SGI suddenly seems to be taking a greater interest in your travel plans, asking more specific questions about how you will use your vehicle

outside the province. Lyle Mosiondz is the Assistant Vice President in the Auto Fund Vehicle and Support Services for SGI. He said they have always asked people about how the vehicle will be used out of province, but the questions are a lot more specific now. The additional questions are part of an updated policy that is meant to make it easier to keep your Saskatchewan license plate if you work or study out of province or take long-term vacations. Read the full story at CJME.com.

<http://www.cjme.com/story/sgi-showing-extra-interest-people-driving-out-province/229445>

SGI Holds Traffic School Using Twitter (Saskatchewan)

SASKATOON – SGI took to Twitter on Saturday for a special online traffic safety school session. Hundreds of educational tweets were posted by @SGITweets including the latest road statistics as well as an outline of the driving points system. Participants were in the Graduated Driver's Licensing improvement program and the public was welcomed to follow along. Read the full story in Global News.

<http://globalnews.ca/news/1093037/sgi-holds-traffic-school-using-twitter/>

Tougher DUI penalties proposed in Washington Legislature

Drunken drivers could face prison on their fourth conviction if the Legislature can find a way to pay for the extra burden on state prisons and county jails. One possible source of money: taxes the state currently collects on alcohol, and some of what it expects to collect for legal marijuana. Read the full story at Spokesman.com.

<http://www.spokesman.com/stories/2014/jan/21/tougher-dui-penalties-proposed-in-washington/>

Fine on Phone Use While Driving Could Double for Repeat Offenders (Washington)

Washington's ban on handheld phone use while driving might get tougher. A proposal being introduced Friday by Transportation Committee co-chairwoman Tracey Eide, D-Des Moines, would tighten up the ban while doubling the fines for repeat offenders. The penalty today is \$124 for first and all offenses. Read more at TheNewsTribune.com

<http://www.thenewstribune.com/2014/01/16/2997419/fine-on-phone-use-while-driving.html>

Did You Know

Cars and Valentine's Day

What happens when you do a search on 'cars and Valentine's Day'? Well apparently we're not the only ones to think of such a search! Here's just a few items that came up:

- 10 best cars for a successful valentines date
<http://jalopnik.com/5884607/the-ten-best-cars-for-a-successful-valentines-day-date/>

- Top 5 Valentine's Day Date Cars - And 5 Others to Ensure You Don't Get Any
<http://wot.motortrend.com/top-5-valentines-day-date-cars-and-5-others-to-ensure-you-dont-get-any-328981.html>
- Valentine's Day: 5 Cars That Say 'I Love You'
http://www.thecarconnection.com/news/1072932_valentines-day-5-cars-that-say-i-love-you
- Celebrating car-love on Valentine's Day
<http://www.autoweek.com/article/20130214/carnews01/130219897>