

# October 25, 2013 - Regional News

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## AAMVA News

### Upcoming AAMVA Webinar: "NMVTIS: An Improved Tool for Law Enforcement"

Join us on Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2-3 PM (ET) for a webinar that will provide updates on what has been going on to improve NMVTIS for the law enforcement community. Hear about the activities and efforts of the NMVTIS Law Enforcement Working Group along with information from the U.S. Department of Justice on new developments with the NMVTIS Law Enforcement Search Tool. Please join us for the latest news regarding NMVTIS and its increasing value and use as an effective tool for the law enforcement community. Register online today at <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/666813057>

### WV DMV Hosts Delegation from South African Counterpart

WV hosted a very successful 3 day visit from the Republic of South Africa's counterpart to DMV, the Road Traffic Infringement Agency. The delegation heard presentations from key WV DMV staff on rehabilitating problem drivers, driver license suspension programs for traffic violations, unpaid tickets and DUI as well as an on-site visit to one of our Ignition Interlock vendors demonstrating the installation of a device in an offender's vehicle. The WV GHS



director provided a briefing on federal highway safety funded initiatives, and media efforts. Also, the delegation heard from key WV Division of Highways staff on highway safety from the engineer perspective and a tour of the DOH emergency traffic management center. [Pictured from left: Steve Dale (WV DMV); Leonard Masango, Senior Manager, IT Services; Kwaazi Ngcobo, Demerit Manager; Dr. Hiengani J. Myana, Senior Executive Manager, Research and Information Mgmt.; Dr. Carolyn Stuart (WV Governor's Office) and Japhta R. Chuwe, Registrar.]

## Region I

### Connecticut Officials Encourage Passengers To Eliminate Teen Distracted Driving

State officials are trying to enlist passengers in efforts to curb distracted driving among teenagers. At an event hosted by Mercy High School Monday morning, teen advisers from the state Department of Motor Vehicles gave tips for how teens riding in a car with their friends can help keep everyone safe. Read the full story in The Courant.

[http://articles.courant.com/2013-10-21/news/hc-middletown-safe-driving-1022-20131021\\_1\\_teens-crashes-dmv-commissioner-melody-currey](http://articles.courant.com/2013-10-21/news/hc-middletown-safe-driving-1022-20131021_1_teens-crashes-dmv-commissioner-melody-currey)

### **DMV Launches New Mobile App in Support of The Parent's Supervised Driving Program (Delaware)**

The Delaware Division of Motor Vehicles launches an extension to the Parent's Supervised Driving Program, a new mobile app sponsored by Ford Motor Company, Road Ready. Read the full story at DoverPost.com.

<http://www.doverpost.com/article/20131018/CCH/131019767/1001/NEWS#ixzz2iMbdsXNj>

### **Bill Would Allow Undocumented NY'ers to Obtain Drivers' Licenses**

Proposed legislation would allow undocumented immigrants access to New York state driver's licenses. Sen. Jose Peralta, has submitted legislation he says would bring the undocumented into the economic mainstream and improve safety on New York roads. Read the full story at LegislativeGazette.com.

<http://www.legislativegazette.com/Articles-Top-Stories-c-2013-10-25-85578.113122-Bill-would-allow-undocumented-NYers-to-obtain-drivers-license.html>

### **Ontario Considering Demerit Points for Distracted Drivers**

Ontario's governing Liberals plan to toughen penalties for motorists who are caught phoning or texting while driving, which could include demerit points. Read the full story at CTVNews.

<http://london.ctvnews.ca/ontario-considering-demerit-points-for-distracted-drivers-1.1509872>

### **Pennsylvania Bill Would Allow Cameras to Nab Drivers Who Ignore School Bus Stop Signs**

It can be difficult for authorities to convict motorists who illegally pass stopped school buses without detailed information about the violation. Collecting those details, however, can be tough for bus drivers while they're also trying to get kids on or off a bus safely. But technology is available to help. Some school districts nationally use cameras mounted on buses' swing-out stop signs to catch an image of the violators to use in court. Read the full story at McCall.com.

<http://www.mcall.com/news/breaking/mc-pa-stopped-school-bus-violators-cameras-20131023,0,4206808.story>

## **Region II**

### **New On-line Traffic Crash Reporting Available for Motorists (Florida)**

The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles has a new online traffic crash reporting form. Under Florida law, drivers involved in a crash that does not warrant a law enforcement report are required to submit their own written report to the Department within ten days of the crash. The online

form is intended to make it easier to submit the required form directly to the Department. Read the press release for more information.

<http://www.flhsmv.gov/news/pdfs/PR102213.pdf>

### **Driver Services Commissioner Announces First Graduating Class from DDS University (Georgia)**

Commissioner Rob Mikell, Department of Driver Services (DDS), congratulated 18 new team members during their graduation from DDS University's Basic Driver Examiner Course on October 17th. The new driver examiners and two regional district managers represent the inaugural graduation class from DDS University. Read the press release for more information.

<http://www.dds.ga.gov/news/newsdetail.aspx?id=304>

### **New Driver's License Denied to Legally Married Same Sex Couple (Oklahoma)**

A metro woman legally married to another woman in Iowa is denied her driver's license here in Oklahoma. After getting her named changed on her social security card without any problem, Sara Doolin was turned away by two tag agencies. Read the full story at KFOR.com.

<http://kfor.com/2013/10/23/new-drivers-license-denied-to-legally-married-same-sex-couple/>

### **Virginia DMV Allows Tesla Dealership**

Some of the most interesting things that make Tesla Motors different from all other car manufacturers are their unusual business model and the way they sell their cars. The American car market imposes strict rules regarding car sales, requiring that manufacturers sell vehicles through franchised car dealerships, instead of direct sales. . . . They have been trying to convince other states to change the existing laws and allow direct car sales, and they announced earlier this week that they have received an approval by the state of Virginia to start operating their own dealership there. Read the full story at GreenerIdeal.com.

<http://www.greenerideal.com/vehicles/1021-virginia-dmv-allows-tesla-dealership/>

### **West Virginia DMV Chief: Counties Can't Register ATVs**

The Brooke County Planning Commission's plan to make all-terrain vehicles more identifiable and collect property taxes from delinquent ATV owners would violate state law, according to the head of the West Virginia Division of Motor Vehicles. Read the full story at TheIntelligencer.net.

<http://www.theintelligencer.net/page/content.detail/id/591390/DMV-Chief--Counties-Can-t-Register-ATVs.html?nav=515>

## **Region III**

### **Illinois Issues Licenses to Immigrants**

Twenty five locations in Illinois, including the Bloomington facility, will offer undocumented immigrants an opportunity to receive their driver's license beginning Dec. 1. Gov. Pat Quinn signed the bill allowing undocumented immigrants to receive their licenses back in January. Appointments are required for applicants and scheduling for these appointments will begin in mid-November. Read the full story at VidetteOnline.com.

<http://www.videtteonline.com/index.php/2013/10/22/illinois-issues-licenses-to-immigrants/>

### **Proposed License Plate Scan Regulations get Thumbs-Down from Police (Michigan)**

More police agencies are using license plate readers while they're out on patrol, and that has some people worried about privacy. The state House Criminal Justice Committee is discussing a bill that would limit the use of license plate readers and require a purge of data after 48 hours. Read the full story at MichiganRadio.org.

<http://michiganradio.org/post/proposed-license-plate-scan-regulations-get-thumbs-down-police>

### **Michigan Allows Upper Peninsula War Vet to Get 'Infidel' License Plate, wants Lawsuit Dismissed**

State officials say they've defused a controversy and issued a personalized license plate to an Upper Peninsula man who wanted to use a variation of the word "infidel." Iraq war veteran Michael Matwyuk (MATT'-we-ook) of Kingsford says the plate was rejected because officials feared it would offend people. But the secretary of state's office says it was simply an oversight and issued the plate a month ago. Read the full story at TheRepublic.com.

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/3e11e462c52d4fb59dca3274c938e178/MI--Infidel-License-Plate>

### **Michigan Bills Address Logos, Plates and E-insurance**

Multiple bills moving through the Michigan statehouse would require fewer commercial vehicles to display company information, mandate regular license plate replacement, and make available electronic proof of vehicle insurance. Read the full story at LandLineMag.com.

<http://www.landlinemag.com/Story.aspx?StoryID=26014#.UmkI52IQHTo>

## **Region IV**

### **California Pilots Electronic License Plates -- Will Other States Follow?**

California is piloting electronic license plates to improve efficiency, lower the cost of DMV vehicle registration services and eliminate the need for vehicle owners, particularly fleet owners, to receive physical registration tags by mail, according to a bill analysis by California's Senate Rules Committee. Read the full story at GCN.com.

<http://gcn.com/articles/2013/10/22/california-electronic-license-plates.aspx>

### **Col. Scott Hernandez Sworn In as Chief of the Colorado State Patrol**

Colonel Scott Hernandez will officially take his place as the eighth Chief of the Colorado State Patrol on Friday, October 25, at 10 a.m. Governor John Hickenlooper will perform the swearing-in ceremony on the west steps of the Capitol. Learn more about Col. Hernandez on the CSP Web site.

<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/StatePatrol-Main/CBON/1251592908196>

### **Nevada DMV Approves Final Rules For Driver Cards**

People living in Nevada without legal residency can begin logging on to a state website for information about a driver authorization card program set to begin Jan. 2. Read the full story at InsuranceJournal.com.

<http://www.insurancejournal.com/news/west/2013/10/24/309141.htm>

### **Las Vegas Vehicle Registration Service Owner Arrested (Nevada)**

Investigators from the Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles and Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department today arrested 43-year-old Ana Carolina Ojeda of Las Vegas on multiple charges relating to vehicle title fraud. Read the press release for more information.

<http://www.dmvnv.com/news/13018-CED-arrest.htm>

### **Oregonians to Vote on Driver's Licenses for People without Documented Status**

Oregonians are headed for a statewide vote on a new law that allows immigrants who can't show they're in the United States legally to obtain driver's licenses. Secretary of State Kate Brown's office said Friday that opponents of the law submitted nearly 71,000 signatures, and the Elections Division has determined that 58,291 were valid. Read the full story at Columbian.com.

<http://www.columbian.com/news/2013/oct/21/oregonians-to-vote-on-drivers-licenses-for-people/>

## **Other News**

### **National Epidemic of Horrible People Pretending to Be Disabled**

This trend probably won't do much for your faith in humanity: Around the country, an increasing number of ethically challenged human beings are faking disabilities in order to snag good parking spots, cut lines at theme parks, or just bring their dogs into restaurants. Read the full story at Business.Time.com.

<http://business.time.com/2013/10/12/national-epidemic-of-horrible-people-pretending-to-be-disabled/#ixzz2iTAHZxA4>

### **Drop in Teen Driving Tracks with Teen Unemployment, HLDI Study Finds**

The Highway Loss Data Institute released a new study of insurance data, showing that economic factors are likely the main reason for the drop in teen driving in recent years. The study looked at changes in the number of insured drivers by age, correlating the significant drop in insured teens to the increase in teen unemployment, which peaked in 2010. Some have speculated that changing tastes, or use of social media have made driving less of an imperative for teens, but the new data suggest that more teens would be driving if they could afford to. Learn more on the IIHS/HLDI Web site.

<http://www.iihs.org/iihs/news/desktopnews/drop-in-teen-driving-tracks-with-teen-unemployment-hldi-study-finds>

### **Self-driving Cars Could Transform Driving, Produce Billions of Dollars in Benefits**

In some ways, computers make ideal drivers: They don't drink and then climb behind the wheel. They don't do drugs, get distracted, fall asleep, run red lights or tailgate. And their reaction times are quicker. They do such a good job, in fact, that a new study says self-driving cars and trucks hold the potential to transform driving by eliminating the majority of traffic deaths, significantly reducing congestion and providing tens of billions of dollars in economic benefits. Read the full story in SeattleTimes.com.

[http://seattletimes.com/html/nationworld/2022100641\\_apxselfdrivingcars.html](http://seattletimes.com/html/nationworld/2022100641_apxselfdrivingcars.html)