

# November 15, 2013 - Regional News

---

## AAMVA News

### **Webinar Announcement: National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners**

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration will be presenting a webinar on the National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners. Learn about the new safety regulation that requires any healthcare provider performing a physical exam for interstate truck and bus drivers to be listed on the National Registry by May 21, 2014. After that date, all commercial motor vehicle drivers must have a physical performed by a medical examiner listed on the National Registry. Find more details and register for the Webinar online at <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/798821017>

## Region I

### **Man Charged with Arranging for Fake Driver's Licenses from RMV Branch in Leominster (Massachusetts)**

The investigation into a Leominster woman who issued fake driver's licenses while working at the state Registry of Motor Vehicles branch in Leominster has led to charges against a man who allegedly orchestrated the deals. Read the full story at Telegram.com.

<http://www.telegram.com/article/20131111/NEWS/311119917/0>

### **Texting at a Stoplight? New Jersey Bill Would Ban It**

Hey, you at the stoplight. Yeah you, reading this article on your cell phone. Put down the phone. State Sen. Richard Codey (D-Essex) is looking to expand the state's law against talking and text messaging while driving to include drivers who are temporarily stopped in traffic jams, at red lights or stop signs. Read the full story in the Star Ledger.

[http://www.nj.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/11/texting\\_at\\_a\\_stoplight\\_nj\\_bill\\_would\\_ban\\_it.html](http://www.nj.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/11/texting_at_a_stoplight_nj_bill_would_ban_it.html)

### **New York Indicts 11 DMV Employees for CDL Testing Fraud**

Eleven employees of New York's Department of Motor Vehicles have received indictments for participation in a fraudulent CDL testing scheme. Brooklyn's U.S. District Court issued indictments Oct. 24 for 11 DMV security workers at five NYC-area centers. Applicants allegedly paid \$1,800 to \$2,500 for test answers and escort assistance through the DMV process. Read the full story in OverDriveOnline.com.

<http://www.overdriveonline.com/n-y-indicts-11-dmv-employees-for-cdl-testing-fraud/>

### **Vehicle Fatalities Fall in Pennsylvania, Nation**

Traffic fatalities appear to be resuming their steady decline after a one-year increase that alarmed some experts. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reported recently that estimated crash deaths for the first half of this year fell by 4.2 percent when compared with the same period in 2012. Read the full story in the Post-Gazette.

<http://www.post-gazette.com/news/state/2013/11/12/Vehicle-fatalities-fall-in-Pa-nation/stories/201311120136>

### **DMV May Put Brakes on Its Money Policy (Rhode Island)**

The Rhode Island Department of Motor Vehicles is working on changing its money handling policy, which now allows cashiers to be up to \$25 off in their registers. DMV Administrator Anthony Silva could not say whether Customer Service Representatives will be expected to balance their drawers down to the penny. Read the full story at WPRI.com.

<http://www.wpri.com/target-12/walt-buteau/target-12-dmv-may-put-brakes-on-its-money-policy>

## **Region II**

### **Bill Would Lift Requirement for Military Families to Have Florida Drivers' Licenses**

A bill moving at the state capitol would lift a requirement that active-duty members of the military have a Florida driver's license while stationed in the state. It would also apply to their families. Read the full story at WGCU.org.

<http://news.wgcu.org/post/bill-would-lift-requirement-military-families-have-florida-drivers-licenses>

### **New Oklahoma Law Allows Seizure of License Plates for Uninsured Drivers**

Law enforcement officers in Oklahoma will soon have the option to seize license plates from uninsured drivers and assign temporary insurance. A new state law went into effect Nov. 1 allowing the seizure, but the Oklahoma Insurance Department says agencies won't implement the changes until January as procedures are established. Read the full story in ConnectAmarillo.com.

<http://www.connectamarillo.com/news/story.aspx?id=970415>

### **Department of Safety Again Told to Replace Aging Computer System (Tennessee)**

The computer system used by the Tennessee Department of Safety is 35 years old and badly needs to be replaced. For the second time since 2008, state auditors have told the department to replace the aging system, which was installed in 1978. Read the full story at Wate.com.

<http://www.wate.com/story/23972809/public-safety-department-needs-new-computer-system>

### **TxDMV launches first paperless vehicle title system**

Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (TxDMV) officials announced at a press conference today that Texas is the first state in the country to begin a paperless vehicle title system. The system known as webDEALER creates electronic vehicle titles, or eTitles, for Texans and turns stacks of paper into a simple Internet-based process for dealers. Read the press release for more information.

[http://www.txdmv.gov/reports-and-data/doc\\_download/3364-txdmv-launches-first-paperless-vehicle-title-system](http://www.txdmv.gov/reports-and-data/doc_download/3364-txdmv-launches-first-paperless-vehicle-title-system)

### **New Virginia DMV Machines Should Improve Test Taking**

Technology installed Tuesday at a local Department of Motor Vehicles office promises to make the road rules test easier for non-English speakers and deaf people and, ultimately, much more convenient for teens, who might be able to take it at their high schools. The SecuriTest computers replace the DMV's 20-year-old testing machines at which prospective new drivers had to stand up to take tests, said Sunni Brown, a department spokeswoman. Read the full story in the News Leader.

<http://www.newsleader.com/article/20131112/NEWS01/311120017/New-DMV-machines-should-improve-test-taking>

## **Region III**

### **Attorney General Issues Warning About Immigrant Driver's License Scams (Illinois)**

Attorney General Lisa Madigan's office is warning Illinois residents to avoid scams related to the state's new driver's licenses for undocumented residents. Secretary of State Jesse White's office began setting up appointments today for residents who are in the country illegally and interested in obtaining Temporary Visitor Driver's Licenses. Read the full story at IllinoisIssuesBlog.

<http://illinoisissuesblog.blogspot.com/2013/11/attorney-general-issues-warning-about.html>

### **Michigan Will Require New License Plates Every 10 Years**

Drivers will have to get a new license plate for their cars at least every 10 years under a bill that passed the state Senate Thursday. Now, drivers don't have to get new plates until they become too battered to read. A new plate costs between \$5 and \$10 depending on whether the driver chooses a standard or specialty plate. Read the full story at WZZM13.com.

<http://www.wzzm13.com/news/article/273393/14/State-will-require-new-license-plates-every-10-years->

### **Ohio Senate OK'S Legislation Instituting Fine for Driving on Flooded Roads**

Drivers who ignore warning signs and pull their vehicles onto flooded roadways could face increased fines, under legislation OK'd by the Ohio Senate on Wednesday. Read the full story in The Daily Record.

<http://www.the-daily-record.com/local%20news/2013/11/15/ohio-senate-ok-s-legislation-instituting-fine-for-driving-on-flooded-roads>

### **New Identification Cards for Wisconsin Veterans**

Wisconsin veterans can soon be identified as such on their driver's license or state issued identification card. The Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs and the state Department of Transportation announced the voluntary request on Monday. Beginning December 2nd, veterans can get a veteran identifier on their cards. Read the full story at Fox11On-Line.com.

<http://www.fox11online.com/news/local/green-bay/new-identification-cards-for-wisconsin-veterans>

### **Wisconsin 'Right to Life' License Plates to Get Hearing**

Although the Legislature tabled two pro-life bills from being sent to the floor Friday morning, a bill to allow "Choose Life" license plates to benefit Choose Life Wisconsin could pass out of committee Tuesday. Read the full story at BadgerHerald.com.

<http://badgerherald.com/news/2013/11/11/right-life-license-plates-get-hearing/>

## **Region IV**

### **San Diegan's 'Not See' Vanity License Plate Causing Outrage (California)**

A San Diego Unified School District bus driver, whose vanity license plate on his car is causing outrage, has been suspended, and 10News learned the state Department of Motor Vehicles is asking that he surrender the plates. Read the full story at 10News.com.

<http://www.10news.com/news/san-diegans-not-see-vanity-license-plate-causing-outrage-11122013>

### **California DMV introduces Troops to Trucks Program**

The California Department of Motor Vehicles is pleased to announce the availability of a new program - Troops to Trucks - aimed at streamlining the commercial driver license application process by eliminating the road skills driving test requirement. Read the full story at Edwards.af.mil/news.

<http://www.edwards.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123370054>

### **DMV Driver Handbook Available for the iPad (California)**

The California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) has introduced a new dynamic and interactive version of the Driver Handbook for the Apple iPad tablet to help new drivers prepare for DMV's written exam. Read the DMV press release.

[https://www.dmv.ca.gov/pubs/newsrel/newsrel13/2013\\_37.htm](https://www.dmv.ca.gov/pubs/newsrel/newsrel13/2013_37.htm)

### **Drive Under Way In Colorado To Gain License Plate Honoring Rocky Mountain National Park**

Colorado motorists might soon have the option of showing their support for Rocky Mountain National Park on their license plates. A petition drive is under way to get the Colorado Legislature to approve a Rocky Mountain National Park Group Special License Plate. The Rocky Mountain Nature Association is collecting signatures on a petition calling on the Colorado Legislature in January to OK this special plate honoring Rocky Mountain National Park. Read the full story at NationalParksTraveler.com.

<http://www.nationalparkstraveler.com/2013/11/drive-under-way-colorado-gain-license-plate-honoring-rocky-mountain-national-park24242>

### **Herbert Inches Closer to Calling for Gas Tax Hike (Utah)**

GOP Gov. Gary Herbert walked right up to the edge Tuesday in calling for an increase in the state gasoline tax. But he stopped short. In a speech to a transportation summit, Herbert listed a number of reasons why state funding of transportation is insufficient to keep up with demand for new roads and maintenance of existing roads. Read the full story in UtahPolicy.com.

<http://utahpolicy.com/index.php/features/today-at-utah-policy/988-herbert-inches-closer-to-calling-for-gas-tax-hike>

## **Other News**

### **Survey Says Mature Drivers Catching Up To Phone-Obsessed Youth**

State Farm today released its annual research report on distracted driving, with troubling findings. Though cell phone use and texting while driving remain a serious concern on the nation's highways, with increasing frequency drivers admit to other distracting behaviors, particularly accessing the internet while driving. Read the full story at SacBee.com.

<http://www.sacbee.com/2013/11/12/5903307/survey-says-mature-drivers-catching.html>