

November 22, 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

D.C. Mayor Signs Immigrant Driver's License Bill

Starting next year, people living in the nation's capital who don't have legal permission to reside in the United States will be able to get driver's licenses. Read the full story at NBCWashington.com.

<http://www.nbcwashington.com/news/local/DC-Mayor-to-Sign-Immigrant-Drivers-License-Bill-232321061.html>

State: DMV Staffer Tampered with Data (New York)

A veteran Department of Motor Vehicles employee has been arrested for allegedly tampering with the agency's computer data base in an effort to remove a man's name from the list of those who are required to use an ignition interlock device. Read the full story at TimesUnion.com.

<http://www.timesunion.com/local/article/State-DMV-staffer-tampered-with-data-4240765.php>

Region II

Driver Services Commissioner Announces Reappointment of Board Chair; Trummie L. Patrick, Jr. Begins Fifth Term

Department of Driver Services (DDS) Commissioner Rob Mikell recently announced the reappointment by Governor Nathan Deal of Trummie L. Patrick, Jr. as Chair of the Agency's Board of Directors for an additional two year term. Patrick has been a DDS Board Member since his appointment in August 2004 and has served as DDS Board Chair since August 2006. Read the press release for more information.

<http://www.dds.ga.gov/news/newsdetail.aspx?id=314>

Louisiana OMV Testing Privatized Drivers' License Renewals

Louisiana's Office of Motor Vehicles has started a pilot program that allows outside contractors to handle drivers' license renewals. The privatization program is being tested in Baton Rouge and Metairie. In each city, a public tag agent — a private business that processes vehicle title registrations — is also able to renew state drivers' licenses. Read the full story in The Advertiser.

http://www.theadvertiser.com/article/20131118/NEWS01/311180016/Louisiana-OMV-testing-privatized-drivers-license-renewals?nclick_check=1

Specialty Tags Decline in Popularity Among Florida Motorists

The state might have reached a tipping point on the number of specialty license plates, as there has been a noticeable decline in motorists willing to pay the extra fees to let others know their college or sports preferences or that they support the troops, manatees or even trees. But advocates of Florida's specialty license plates say reducing auto registration fees toward pre-2009 levels could reinvigorate the program, which helps raise money for a wide range of causes. Read the full story in the Miami Herald.

<http://www.miamiherald.com/2013/11/10/3745143/specialty-tags-decline-in-popularity.html>

Judge Dismisses Virginia Vet's License Plate Appeal, Says Possible DMV Remedies Not Exhausted

A judge has dismissed an Iraq War veteran's appeal seeking to regain personalized license plates that include a term deemed offensive by some Arab-Americans. The Virginian-Pilot (<http://bit.ly/17NAViZ>) says Chesapeake Circuit Judge John W. Brown ruled that Sean Bujno didn't exhaust possible remedies through the Department of Motor Vehicles. Read the full story in the Washington Post.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/judge-dismisses-va-vets-license-plate-appeal-says-possible-dmv-remedies-not-exhausted/2013/11/11/b7ee88d6-4ad9-11e3-bf60-c1ca136ae14a_story.html

DMV Worker Pleads Guilty to Providing Documents to Illegal Aliens (Virginia)

A worker at the Virginia State Department of Motor Vehicles along with her accomplices entered guilty pleas in a federal case involving a conspiracy to provide DMV driver licenses to illegal aliens, according to a Friday statement from Valerie Parlave, assistant director in charge of the FBI's Washington, D.C., Field Office. Read the full story at Examiner.com.

<http://www.examiner.com/article/dmv-worker-pleads-guilty-to-providing-documents-to-illegal-aliens>

Region III

Jesse White Offering Expedited Services and Waiving Various Fees for Tornado Victims

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White announced today that victims of Sunday's tornadoes will be offered the following services over the next 30 days at no charge: duplicate certificate of title, duplicate vehicle registration, duplicate driver's license and duplicate state ID card. Read the press release for more details.

<http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/news/2013/november/131119d1.pdf>

Iowa Seeks to Rein in Use of Speed Cameras

Unmanned "speed cameras" that enforce local speed limits have become a common roadside feature across the United States, but few places have embraced the devices with the zeal of Iowa. Read the full story in the GettysburgTimes.com.

http://www.gettysburgtimes.com/news/national/article_e9339ba2-2d52-5a2f-9ed4-79d748675770.html

Iowa Funds \$200-Per-User App to Stop Teen Texting and Driving

Iowa's Department of Transportation has awarded a contract to develop an app that will prevent its teens from texting while driving, according to a press release Thursday. The state's proposal for the app involves several sophisticated features, including a Web portal for parents to track what kids are doing on their phones and where they are. The app will also give reports on driving behavior and provide a system that will alert parents when certain parameters are exceeded—at a significant cost to the state. Read the full story at ARSTechnica.com.

<http://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/2013/11/iowa-funds-200-per-user-app-to-stop-teen-texting-and-driving/>

Activist Sues After Anti-War License Plate Is Rejected (Michigan)

A Washtenaw County man is suing the state over its refusal to grant a license plate that says "WAR SUX." Read the full story at Detroit.CBSLocal.com.

<http://detroit.cbslocal.com/2013/11/21/activist-sues-after-anti-war-license-plate-is-rejected/>

Legislature Seeks Limits on Police Images of License Plates (Wisconsin)

A bipartisan bill in the Wisconsin Legislature would curtail the growing practice by police of recording and storing civilian license plate images, even when no crime has been committed. Read the full story in The Green Bay Press Gazette.

<http://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/viewart/20131120/GPG0101/311200276/Legislature-seeks-limits-police-images-license-plates>

WisDOT and Convenience Stores Teaming Up to Remind Deer Hunters and Other Motorists About the Dangers of Drunken Driving (Wisconsin)

To help ensure that deer hunters make it home safely this year, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) and the Wisconsin Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association (WPMCA) are teaming up to install attention-getting gas pump toppers at stations around the state warning hunters and others of the dangers of drunken driving. Read the DOT press release.

http://www.dot.state.wi.us/opencms/export/nr/modules/news/news_4343.html_786229440.html

Region IV

Proposed Ballot Measure Would More Than Double 'Car Tax' (California)

California motorists' vehicle license fee would more than double under a proposed November 2014 ballot measure to raise an estimated \$3 billion a year for the state's ailing road system. Read the full story in the Sacramento Bee.

<http://www.sacbee.com/2013/11/19/5928364/proposed-ballot-measure-would.html>

Colorado Driving School Clerk Pleads Guilty to Social Security Fraud

A woman who worked at an Aurora driving school accused of taking bribes to grant paperwork for licences to applicants pleaded guilty to Social Security fraud on Tuesday. Read the full story in the Denver Post.

http://www.denverpost.com/breakingnews/ci_24557380/aurora-driving-school-clerk-pleads-guilty-social-security#ixzz2lCLxO2Kf

DMV: State Needs to Spend \$16.3 Million to Comply with Federal Law (Oregon)

Oregon would need to spend \$16.3 million over the next six years to upgrade security measures for its driver's licenses, or the federal government could refuse to recognize Oregon IDs for things like boarding a plane. Read the full story in the Statesman Journal.

<http://www.statesmanjournal.com/article/20131120/UPDATE/131120013/DMV-State-needs-spend-16-3-million-comply-federal-law>

Other News

Older Drivers No Longer Subjected to 'Discriminatory' Driving Tests (Australia)

Transport minister Troy Buswell has announced driving tests will no longer be compulsory for drivers over 85 years of age. Read the full story at PerthNow.com.

<http://www.perthnow.com.au/news/western-australia/older-drivers-no-longer-subjected-to-discriminatory-driving-tests-in-wa/story-fnhocxo3-1226765176789>

GM Says Self-Driving Vehicles Not Ready in 'Foreseeable Future'; Nissan Vows by 2020

A senior General Motors official and a top researcher told a House panel that self-driving cars will not be available "for the foreseeable future," while Nissan Motor Co. is sticking to its timetable of offering autonomous vehicles by 2020. Read the full story at DetroitNews.com.

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131119/AUTO01/311190072#ixzz2l7419ljo>

Did You Know

All About Turkey!

Underwriters Laboratory (UL) Give Turkey Fryers the Cold Shoulder

The UL has decided to no longer certify turkey fryers due to the increasing instances of fires and serious burns associated with their use. Learn more at

http://www.wsp.wa.gov/information/releases/2013_archive/mr112013.htm

Turkey 101: Tips for Cooking a Delicious Turkey

Looking for great tips on how to cook the perfect turkey this Thanksgiving? Learn about freshness, brine, basting, and how to roast a stuffed, and unstuffed turkey to perfection at

<http://www.redlandsdailyfacts.com/lifestyle/20131116/turkey-cooking-tips-for-a-delicious-thanksgiving>

Five Most Popular Ways to Cook a Turkey (and other trivia, tips and recipes)

1. Roasted
2. Steamed
3. Deep fried
4. Grilled
5. Smoked

More interesting turkey stuff is available at <http://farmflavor.com/turkeymagazine/>