



American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators

# TWIR THE WEEK IN REVIEW

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June 2, 2014

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## 2014 Martha Irwin Award Winners Announced

AAMVA is pleased to announce the winners of the 2014 Martha Irwin Award for Lifetime Achievement in Highway Safety are:

- Law Enforcement Category: Colonel Michael Edmonson, Louisiana State Police; and
- Motor Vehicle Administration Category: Mr. Robert Redmond, Senior Transportation Specialist, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration



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The two winners were selected from a field of 13 deserving individuals who were nominated. They will receive their awards at the the AAMVA Annual International Conference luncheon on Wednesday, August 27, 2014, in Dover, DE. Congratulations to Colonel Edmonson and Mr. Redmond!

### Register for the 2014 Annual International Conference



Online registration for AAMVA's premier event – the [2014 Annual International Conference \(AIC\)](#) is open. Take advantage of AAMVA's early bird registration rate - get registered today and take part in this year's exciting conference at the splendid [Dover Downs Hotel & Casino in Dover, Delaware](#). Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to meet and share ideas with fellow jurisdiction members, industry experts, and innovative leaders. Visit [www.aamva.org/2014-AIC-Landing-Page/](http://www.aamva.org/2014-AIC-Landing-Page/).

### Register for Regional Conferences



Register now to join us for our 2014 Regional Conferences. Region IV meets from June 2-5 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Region II meets from June 22-25 in Biloxi, Mississippi, and Region I meets from July 27-30 in Toronto, Ontario. [Visit the upcoming events section of AAMVA's website to register!](#)

### Region I President Rob Fleming Moves to New Position



Region I President, Rob Fleming, has been asked to take on and has accepted a new position with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment: Assistant Deputy Minister of Integrated Environmental Policy. He begins the new position on Monday, June 2nd. Fleming will be stepping down from his roles on the AAMVA International and Region I Boards, and from the Finance and Audit Committee. Though the Region I Board has not yet made a determination about a new Region I President, they have confirmed that the [Region I Conference](#) will take place in Toronto as planned. AAMVA wishes Rob Fleming all the very best in all that life has to offer as he moves forward, and thanks him for supporting

the association through the years.

### Ignition Interlock Working Group Meets



The first meeting of the Ignition Interlock Working Group was held May 28 - 29, 2014, in Seattle, WA. All 17 IIWG members/technical advisors attended along with AAMVA staff liaisons Tom Manuel and Brian Ursino. The first portion of the meeting was spent reviewing current research and other relevant information provided by MADD, NHTSA, and select IIWG members. The remainder of the time was spent developing the major topical areas to be included in the Ignition Interlock Program Best Practices Guide the IIWG anticipates publishing during FY2015. Questions regarding the IIWG should be directed to Brian Ursino at [bursino@aamva.org](mailto:bursino@aamva.org).

### Share Information With Other Jurisdictions

Please respond to these surveys from Quebec, Alaska, and Oregon. The jurisdictions that have already responded are listed after each survey.

- [Permanent Registration Certificate in Quebec](#) (Ends 06/17/2014) Responses received from AB, FL, NE, NJ, OR.
- [Service animals on road tests](#) (Ends 06/17/2014) Responses received from AZ, BC, CA, FL, MN, ND, NE, NH, PA, SD, VT.

- [Motorcycle Tests Required to Transfer Endorsement](#) (Ends 06/11/2014) Responses received from AB, AZ, BC, CO, CT, DE, FL, IL, IN, LA, MN, MO, ND, NE, NJ, OH, OR, SC, SD, VT, WY.

These jurisdictions appreciate your assistance with their research. If you need a Web password or have any questions about using the survey tool, please send an e-mail to [webportalsupport@aamva.org](mailto:webportalsupport@aamva.org) or call Janice Dluzynski at 703-908-5842. All online surveys can be found on the AAMVA Web site at <http://www.aamva.org/Survey/User/SurveyDefault.aspx>.

### **Utah Vehicle Titling and Registration System Team Receives Governor's Award for Excellence**

The project team for Utah's new vehicle titling and registration system has received the Governor's Award for Excellence for innovation and Efficiency. The Utah Governor's Award for Excellence honors the contributions of state agencies and employees in the categories of innovation and efficiency, leadership, outstanding public service, and humanitarianism. The award for the new system, known as the Vehicle and Dealer Registration System (VADARS), recognizes the achievement of the VADARS team in implementing an innovative solution that provides efficient and effective services for the citizens of Utah. VADARS serves as the statewide vehicle title, registration, and enforcement solution, annually administering more than 2.5 million vehicle titles and registrations, 2,700 dealership and body shop licenses, and 12,000 licenses for vehicle salespersons. The system allows customers-both businesses and individuals-to conduct many activities online, including payments, renewal of titles and licenses, and ordering vehicle license plates and placards. The system also distributes multiple types of revenue and fees to hundreds of state and local funds.

### **IIHS: Better Autobrake Helps More Models Earn Top Ratings for Front Crash Prevention**

Less than a year into a new IIHS ratings program for front crash prevention, auto manufacturers are making strides in adopting the most beneficial systems with automatic braking capabilities and are offering the features on a wider variety of models. Twenty-one of 24 cars and SUVs, all 2014 models unless noted, earn an advanced or higher rating in the latest round of IIHS evaluations. Large family cars and large luxury cars make up the bulk of the test group. IIHS also tested four midsize luxury/near luxury cars, three midsize luxury SUVs and a midsize SUV. Four vehicles earn perfect scores when equipped with certain options. They are the BMW 5 series large luxury car, BMW X5 midsize luxury SUV, 2015 Hyundai Genesis large luxury car and Mercedes-Benz E-Class large luxury car. In all, eight models earn the highest rating of superior, 13 earn advanced, and three earn a basic rating. In addition to familiar luxury brands, consumers will find mainstream nameplates among the newest rated vehicles, including Buick, Chevrolet, Dodge and Toyota. For full information, [visit iihs.org](http://www.iihs.org).

### **States Receive Teen Driving Grants to Address Risky Behaviors**

Car crashes remain the leading cause of death for 15- to 20-year-olds in the U.S. To help combat this problem, the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) announced that six of its member State Highway Safety Offices have been awarded \$100,000 in grants from *Ford Driving Skills for Life (Ford DSFL)*. Elements of the award-winning teen driving program, developed collaboratively by Ford Motor Company Fund and GHSA, will be incorporated into initiatives implemented by the highway safety offices in Arizona, Kansas, Nebraska, New York, North Carolina, and North Dakota. For more information, visit [ghsa.org](http://ghsa.org).

### **DOT Reminds Commercial Drivers that Physicals Must Now Be Performed by Certified Medical Examiners**

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) is reminding interstate truck and bus drivers that all new USDOT physicals must be performed by a qualified health professional listed on the National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners. The new program, which was required by federal law and addresses four National Transportation Safety Board recommendations, sets baseline training and testing standards for medical professionals who perform commercial driver physicals and for tracking of driver medical certificates. For more information, [visit here](#).

### **NHTSA Releases Summer Driving Tips for Safe Travel**

Memorial Day weekend typically marks the start of the summer vacation season. And, as warmer weather approaches, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration urges drivers to take the proper precautions before and while driving on the roadway. During the summer months, there is usually an increase in the number of vehicles on the nation's roadways. Families take to the highways for vacations and extended road trips. And while these excursions can start off as a happy occasion, they can too often result in tragedy due to negligence and failure to properly execute the necessary steps to ensure safe travel. According to NHTSA data, in 2012 there were 377 crash related fatalities during the Memorial Day holiday period. Consumers should remember prevention and planning is much easier than dealing with the consequences of a breakdown, or worse yet, a highway crash. To help avoid fatalities on our roadways, the agency has developed a list of tips that consumers can use for safe travel while driving:

- Buckle Up. Every Trip. Every Time.
- Don't Drive After Drinking
- Check your Tire's Air Pressure, Tread Wear, and Spare
- Keep Children Safe In and Around Your Vehicle

Additional safety tips for drivers can be accessed with our new interactive [Summer Driving Tips](#).

### **FMCSA Announcement**

FMCSA has received a number of questions regarding drivers who have been turned away from an SDLA because their Medical Examiners Certificate is marked "NO" in the block, "does the driver have a CDL." For example, Student Drivers may be required to obtain a physical exam in order to obtain a

first time CDL, are being turned away from state license agencies because the block is marked "NO" for CDL. The YES/NO box on the medical form (for if a driver has a CDL), is currently for statistical information only. The doctors should be checking "NO" if they're evaluating a person without a CDL or one who is working towards a Permit. The State should continue with the licensing process regardless of whether his block is marked YES or NO because the medical requirement is the same for an interstate driver regardless of whether or not they need a CDL.

SDLAs should accept this as a valid medical and continue with the licensing process. The medical requirements apply if a driver is operating a CMV; which may or may not require a CDL, or in the example above, the driver may be obtaining a CDL or CLP for the first time. Given those scenarios, the driver would have answered the Medical Examiners question "NO", and been accurate in doing so. The fact that the applicant did not have a valid CDL during the medical examination doesn't mean the State cannot issue a CDL/CLP. If the Medical Examiner's Certificate was performed by an authorized Medical Examiner, the State should continue with the licensing issuance, regardless of how the CDL Box is marked/answered.

Note: When the second national registry final rule is published later this year authorizing the electronic transmission of the medical examiner's certification (MEC) information to the SDLA, this box will be modified to read "YES/NO CLP/CDL Applicant/Holder" for the purpose of determining whether the MEC information should be sent to the SDLA. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Michael Gordon, CDL Team Leader, 304-549-2651