

September 19, 2014 - Regional News

AAMVA News

'Impact Teen Drivers' Webinar Archive Available for Download

Car crashes due to reckless and distracted driving have been the leading cause of death for American teens for decades. Since 2007, Impact Teen Drivers (ITD) has emerged as a leading non-profit organization dedicated to reversing this pervasive, yet 100% preventable trend. In a recent AAMVA Webinar attendees were introduced to ITD's background and mission. The webinar has been archived, so if you missed it, you can download it today from the AAMVA Webinar Series archives page at <http://www.aamva.org/Webinar-Archives/>.

Region I

What To Know Before Buying a Salvage Vehicle (Maryland)

They are ready-to-drive for thousands less than your average automobile. But these "rebuilt wrecks" or salvage vehicles can come with a bit more than you paid for. Read the full article on wusa9.com.

<http://www.wusa9.com/story/news/local/2014/09/12/salvage-vehicle-rebuilt-wreck/15540545/>

Class Action Suit Targets DMV For Fining Cyclists As If They're Drivers (New York)

In addition to paying the same hefty fines for traffic violations as motorists, cyclists caught in the NYPD's "Safe Cycle" crackdown have also been forced to pay a bogus \$88 surcharge, plus accept additional points on their license. New York Vehicle and Traffic law explicitly exempts cyclists from this surcharge, but summonses issued to cyclists nevertheless inform them that "included in the total amount for each violation (except equipment) are mandatory surcharges in the amount of \$88." Most cyclists just pay it, but a new lawsuit could result in refunds for those who thought the "mandatory" surcharges were in fact mandatory. Read the full story at Gothamist.com.

http://gothamist.com/2014/09/16/cyclist_surcharge_lawsuit.php

Region II

Launch Campaign Asking Florida Licenses for Undocumented Immigrants

María González Amrry Bilbao and are undocumented immigrants who need driver's licenses, not only to drive a car, but also for air travel, rent or buy a house, open a bank account or to solve a range of other issues with which residents legal never have to deal with. Read the El Nuevo Herald story at Translate.Google.com.

<http://translate.google.com/translate?js=n&prev=t&ie=UTF-8&tl=en&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.elnuevoherald.com%2F2014%2F09%2F14%2F1842576%2Fcampana-pide-licencias-de-conducir.html>

Oklahomans May Soon Need a Passport to Get on a Plane

Oklahoma began issuing a new form of driver's license in 2012, but the state deliberately ignored new federal standards for licenses passed by Congress in 2005 under the "REAL ID Act." The state didn't like the fact that it would have to ensure driver's license facilities were secure, and that issuers would have to be trained to spot fake documents. Read the full story at KRMG.com.

<http://www.krmg.com/news/news/local/oklahomans-may-soon-need-passport-get-plane/nhPQx/>

Virginia DMV Cranking Out Birth Certificates

Virginia is celebrating a baby boom of sorts. The boom involves the sale of birth certificates at the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles. This month, that number topped 50,000 under a partnership with the state Division of Vital Records. Read the full story at WashingtonPost.com.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/va-dmv-cranking-out-birth-certificates/2014/09/18/ce2de394-3efd-11e4-a430-b82a3e67b762_story.html

Region III

State Enforces Tougher Standards for Specialty Plates (Indiana)

Requests to create specialty license plates for a range of established groups have been rejected because the groups failed to meet new criteria set to avoid messy litigation that's plagued the program in the past. Read the full story at RushvilleRepublican.com.

http://www.rushvillerepublican.com/news/article_9ab4eb8d-e503-5eb8-8982-992e7f430650.html

MPI Warns of Phony Customer Email Survey (Manitoba)

A survey popping up in the inboxes of Manitoba Public Insurance customers is not what it seems. MPI said it's not behind a recent customer email survey that has been appearing in pop-up windows on Internet browsers. It advised customers to not respond to the survey. Read the full story at ILSTV.com.

<http://www.ilstv.com/mpi-warns-of-phony-customer-email-survey/>

New Safe Driving Effort for Teens, Parents Wins National Honor (Michigan)

Michigan's newest resource for the parents of teen drivers has won top honors from a national traffic-safety group today in Grand Rapids, Secretary of State Ruth Johnson announced. Read the Michigan press release.

<http://michigan.gov/minewswire/0,4629,7-136-3452-336930--,00.html>

Regulations coming for Uber and Lyft (Ohio)

After five months of complaints from Cincinnati taxi companies and a summer spent researching what other cities do, the city of Cincinnati is unveiling Lyft and Uber guidelines. Read the full article on Cincinnati.com.

<http://www.cincinnati.com/story/news/politics/2014/09/12/uberlyft-rules-in-the-works/15062855/>

Region IV

Former DMV Employee Sentenced to Three Years in Prison in a Widespread Corruption Case at the DMV in Southern California

Jeffrey Bednarek, a former employee at the California Department of Motor Vehicles office in El Cajon, California, was sentenced today by U.S. District Court Judge Cathy A. Bencivengo to three years in prison for his leadership role in a conspiracy to commit bribery, identification document fraud and witness tampering. Read the full story at ImperialValleyNews.com.

<http://www.imperialvalleynews.com/index.php/news/california-news/10974-former-dmv-employee-sentenced-to-three-years-in-prison-in-a-widespread-corruption-case-at-the-dmv-in-southern-california.html>

Board Of Equalization Member Accuses DMV Of Overcharging Taxpayers (California)

The Department of Motor Vehicles has been overcharging California consumers when they pay taxes on their vehicle purchases, according to a member of the state Board of Equalization. Read the full story at LosAngeles.CBSLocal.com.

<http://losangeles.cbslocal.com/2014/09/11/board-of-equalization-member-accuses-dmv-of-overcharging-taxpayers/#.VBKCGvubSUo.twitter>

Self-Driving Cars Now Need a Permit in California

Computer-driven cars have been testing their skills on California roads for more than four years — but until now, the Department of Motor Vehicles wasn't sure just how many were rolling around. That changed Tuesday, when the agency issued testing permits that allowed three companies to dispatch 29 vehicles onto freeways and into neighborhoods — with a human "safety driver" behind the wheel in case the onboard computers make a bad decision. Read the full story at ABCNews.go.com.

<http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/wireStory/driving-cars-now-permit-california-25535607>

Jerry Brown Signs Ride-Sharing Insurance Bill (California)

Gov. Jerry Brown has signed legislation requiring drivers in the burgeoning ride-sharing industry to carry more insurance, his office announced Wednesday. The bill affects companies such as Uber and Lyft, which initially objected to legislation increasing insurance requirements for their drivers. The companies

reversed course last month, announcing support for the bill after negotiations lowered the minimum cost of liability insurance they will have to carry to \$200,000. Read the full story at SacBee.com.

<http://www.sacbee.com/2014/09/17/6715488/jerry-brown-signs-ride-sharing.html>

524 Non-Citizens Received Regular Colorado Driver's Licenses, DMV Says

Colorado's Department of Motor Vehicles mistakenly issued U.S. citizen driver's licenses to 524 non-citizens, including some illegal immigrants, CBS4 has learned. Read the full story at Denver.DBSLocal.com.

<http://denver.cbslocal.com/2014/09/12/524-non-citizens-received-regular-colorado-drivers-licenses-dmv-says/>

Pot Bust Leads to Discovery of Fake Credit Cards and Driver's Licenses (Nevada)

Las Vegas police arrested a man Friday afternoon in southwest Las Vegas for growing pot and making fake credit cards and driver's licenses in what they call a "super" manufacturing lab. Read the full story at JRN.com.

<http://www.jrn.com/ktnv/news/Man-arrested-for-growing-pot-fake-credit-cards-and-drivers-licenses-274969311.html>

Man Selling Illegal Medical Cards to Truckers Confronted (New Mexico)

KOB Eyewitness News 4's Caleb James confronted 75-year-old Paul Bateman Tuesday, the man who posted up at an Albuquerque-area truck stop and allegedly gave truckers forged medical cards, which are required to get a commercial driver's license, after performing very basic physicals. Read the full story at KOB.com.

http://www.kob.com/article/stories/s3556637.shtml#.VA_St6EHTug.email

Other News

Electric Car for the Disabled Being Test Driven Now

A single-occupant electric car that allows people with disabilities to quickly roll up to the steering wheel and drive without leaving their wheelchairs is being test-driven on the streets of Riverside. Read the full story at OCRegister.com.

<http://www.ocregister.com/articles/car-634981-chairiot-wheelchair.html>

Tech That Nags Drivers: It's About Safety (and GDP)

In an interview with CNET, Seeing Machines CEO Ken Kroeger says data collected by his company's eye- and head-tracking tech, which is reportedly being put in GM cars, is only for the driver (currently). Read the full article on CNET.com.

<http://www.cnet.com/news/tech-that-nags-drivers-its-about-safety-and-gdp/>

FBI Launches National Facial Recognition System

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has fully rolled out a new biometric identification system that includes facial recognition technology. The FBI, working with the Criminal Justice Information Services Division, says the Next Generation Identification System is now fully operational. Read the full story at MyFox.com.

<http://www.myfoxny.com/story/26534182/fbi-launches-national-facial-recognition-system>

Cars That Chat With Each Other Provide Safety And Additional Costs

Systems that enable vehicles to communicate with each other have been developed in recent years in parallel with features that enable cars to drive themselves. Manufacturers and suppliers now are putting the two together in novel ways, with broad implications for vehicle safety and convenience, reports NewsDaily. Read the full article on Design & Trend.

<http://www.designntrend.com/articles/19677/20140917/cars-chat-each-provide-safety-additional-costs.htm>

Radar Gun-like Device Will Catch Texting Drivers

A Virginia company is developing a radar gunlike device that would help police catch drivers as they text. The technology works by detecting the telltale radio frequencies that emit from a vehicle when someone inside is using a cellphone, said Malcolm McIntyre of ComSonics. Read the full story at SpaceCoastDaily.com.

<http://spacecoastdaily.com/2014/09/radar-gun-like-device-will-catch-texting-drivers/>

Did You Know

DRUGGED DRIVING

- Many drugs impair motor skills, reaction time, and judgment and negatively affect driving skills
- Use of any psychoactive (mind-altering) drug makes it highly unsafe to drive a car and is illegal—just like driving after drinking alcohol.
- A driver commits the crime of impaired driving whenever his or her ability to safely operate a vehicle is impaired by the effects of illegal drugs, prescription medications, or over-the-counter medications, or by having a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of 0.08 grams per deciliter or higher.
- After alcohol, THC (delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol), the active ingredient in marijuana, is the substance most commonly found in the blood of impaired drivers, fatally injured drivers, and motor vehicle crash victims.

- Other drugs commonly implicated in accidents include opiates, amphetamines, benzodiazepines, and cocaine.
- Many prescription drugs including opioid pain relievers and benzodiazepenes prescribed for anxiety or sleep disorders come with warnings against the operation of machinery—including motor vehicles—for a specified period of time after use.

Learn more online:

- Drugged Driving (NCADD) <https://ncadd.org/learn-about-drugs/drugged-driving>
- Drugged Driving (Office of National Drug Control Policy) <http://www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp/drugged-driving>
- Special Feature: Impaired Driving (NCJRS) <https://www.ncjrs.gov/impaireddriving/>
- DrugFacts: Drugged Driving (National Institute on Drug Abuse) <http://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/drugfacts/drugged-driving>