

# October 3, 2014 - Regional News

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## AAMVA News

### **Using CDLIS Reports to be Green by September 2015. Register for the Webinar Today**

According to MAP-21, states are required to be green by September 2015. AAMVA invites its members to attend a webinar "Using CDLIS Reports to be Green by September 2015". This webinar aims to provide current recipients of CDLIS reports with an overview of reports and training resources that are currently available. The Webinar is scheduled to take place on Thursday, October 9th at 2:00 EDT. Register now for this webinar and learn how CDLIS reporting can help your jurisdiction become green.

<http://www.aamva.org/Webinar-Series/>

### **AAMVA Headquarters is On the Move**

On Monday, September 29th, AAMVA headquarters moved to a new location in Arlington, Virginia. Phone numbers and email addresses will NOT change. Our new mailing address is **4401 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 700, Arlington, VA 22203**.

## Region I

### **New Motor Vehicle Laws Take Effect October 1 (Maryland)**

On Wednesday, October 1, 2014, several new motor vehicle laws will take effect, including "Jake's Law" which strengthens penalties for distracted driving. Anyone who texts or reads messages while operating a motor vehicle that causes an accident that kills or seriously injures another will face penalties of up to a year in jail and a fine of \$5,000. Read the full story at SOMD.com.

<http://somd.com/news/headlines/2014/18617.shtml>

### **New York State to Replace Peeling License Plates**

New York State will replace peeling license plates free of charge or offer a refund. Read the full story at RochesterHomePage.net.

[http://www.rochesterhomepage.net/story/d/story/ny-state-to-replace-peeling-license-plates/19592/Y0c76\\_OMQkKGpxNBuUWAFa](http://www.rochesterhomepage.net/story/d/story/ny-state-to-replace-peeling-license-plates/19592/Y0c76_OMQkKGpxNBuUWAFa)

### **Rhode Island DMV Shared Personal Data with Antiterrorism Agency**

The American Civil Liberties Union is claiming that the state Division of Motor Vehicles has shared personal information about Rhode Island drivers with a federal antiterrorism agency, and it wants the practice to stop. Read the full story at ProvidenceJournal.com.

<http://www.providencejournal.com/news/government/20140929-aclu-rhode-island-dmv-shared-personal-data-with-antiterrorism-agency.ece>

## Region II

### **Orlando Billboards Target Uber, Lyft Over Safety (Florida)**

A group of limousine drivers in Orlando has launched a billboard ad attack on ride-sharing companies Uber and Lyft. Two different styles of billboard were launched in about 20 locations by Greater Orlando Limousine Association (GOLA). Read the full article in the Orlando Sentinel.

<http://www.orlandosentinel.com/business/brinkmann-on-business/os-orlando-billboards-target-uber-lyft-over-safety-20141001-post.html>

### **Driver Services (DDS) Commissioner Accepts Technology Awards (Georgia)**

Department of Driver Services (DDS) Commissioner Rob Mikell accepted two awards for DDS online customer service enhancements during the recent Georgia Technology Authority (GTA) 2014 Technology Innovation Showcase. Read the press release for more.

<http://www.dds.ga.gov/news/newsdetail.aspx?id=363>

### **"I'm Creole and Proud" Displayed on New Louisiana License Plates**

A new Louisiana license plate recently hit the streets for sale. Written across the plate "I'm creole and proud" is a new effort to promote Louisiana's creole culture. Read the full story at KPLCTV.com.

<http://www.kplctv.com/story/26648870/im-creole-and-proud-displayed-on-new-louisiana-license-plates>

### **NC Commission License Plate Supports Brook Trout**

Motorists in North Carolina can help support conservation and management of brook trout by purchasing a new license plate. Read the full article on CBS46.com.

<http://www.cbs46.com/story/26695103/nc-commission-license-plate-supports-brook-trout>

### **Emma's Law to Curb DUIs Goes into Effect in South Carolina**

In an effort to cut down on drunk drivers, "Emma's Law" now requires convicted drunk drivers to use a locking device that won't let their car start if they have been drinking. The new law goes into effect October 1, 2014. It's named after 6-year-old Emma Longstreet from Lexington. She died after a drunk driver repeat-offender hit her family's car as they drove to church New Year's Day 2012. Read the full story at WBTW.com.

<http://www.wbtw.com/story/26673824/emmas-law-to-curb-duis-goes-into-effect-in-sc>

## Region III

### **Chicago Libraries Accept Immigrant Licenses as ID (Illinois)**

The Chicago Public Library has begun accepting special immigrant driver's licenses as identification for obtaining a library card. Read the full story at SFGate.com.

<http://www.sfgate.com/news/article/Chicago-libraries-accept-immigrant-licenses-as-ID-5789745.php>

### **Jesse White Launches Public Awareness Campaign to Highlight Penalties for Using Fake IDs (Illinois)**

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White launched a public awareness campaign today urging college students and others to refrain from obtaining and using fake driver's licenses and identification cards. White underscored the severe penalties that come with using or possessing fake IDs. Read the press release.

<http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/news/2014/october/141001d1.pdf>

### **New DMV Online Driver License Guide Walks Through Eligibility and Forms to Save Time and Paperwork (Wisconsin)**

Is it time to renew your driver license? What paperwork do you need to take get your license? There's now an app for that. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) offers a new online, interactive Driver License Guide to help customers get information on their driver license eligibility and status, get a checklist of the documents they'll need to take to DMV customer service centers, and it even fills in the application form. Read the DOT press release.

[www.dot.wisconsin.gov/news](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/news)

## Region IV

### **Campaign Aims to Put Snoopy on California License Plates**

The grizzly bear may be California's official animal, but Snoopy, the beagle from "Peanuts," could just as easily be a proud representative of the Golden State. After all, Charles M. Schulz, the creator of "Peanuts," was a longtime resident of Northern California. His comic book pooch remains so popular that the California Association of Museums wants to put his iconic image on an official license plate. Proceeds from sales of the plate would go toward supporting the state's museums. Read the full story at MercuryNews.com.

[http://www.mercurynews.com/ci\\_26645402/san-jose-campaign-aims-put-snoopy-california-license](http://www.mercurynews.com/ci_26645402/san-jose-campaign-aims-put-snoopy-california-license)

### **State Officials Want to Ban Pot in Cars (Washington)**

State officials want the Legislature to tweak the state's recreational marijuana law so that it's illegal to smoke marijuana in a car. The Washington Traffic Safety Commission notes that under the state's new

recreational pot law, there's no explicit language addressing marijuana in vehicles, the News Tribune of Tacoma reported Thursday. Read the full news at KXLY.com.

<http://www.kxly.com/news/northwest/washington-state-officials-want-to-ban-pot-in-cars/28246484>

## Other News

### "Drink Responsibly" Campaigns Found to be Ineffective

Vague, indeterminate and ubiquitous, the "Drink Responsibly" message featured in alcohol advertisements fails to explicate the details of safe drinking, instead promoting consumer loyalty to brands associated with such slogans. Read the full story at JHuneNewsletter.com.

<http://www.jhunewsletter.com/2014/09/18/drink-responsibly-campaigns-found-to-be-ineffective-50147/>

### Chrysler Recalling 350,000 Cars with Ignition Problems

Chrysler Group is recalling about 350,000 cars -- including some Jeep and Dodge brand vehicles -- for an ignition key problem similar to the one that plagued General Motors. Read the full story at KXLY.com.

<http://www.kxly.com/news/money/chrysler-recalling-350000-cars-with-ignition-problems/28246080>

### Harley-Davidson Recalls all 2014 Touring Motorcycles

Harley-Davidson is recalling about 126,000 motorcycles over a problem with the clutch that could cause crashes. The recall applies to all model year 2014 Touring bikes, including the three-wheeled trikes and custom designed bikes. Read the full story at Money.CNN.com.

[http://money.cnn.com/2014/09/28/autos/harley-davidson-recall/index.html?iid=HP\\_River](http://money.cnn.com/2014/09/28/autos/harley-davidson-recall/index.html?iid=HP_River)

### "Big Three" Highway Safety Challenges Top State Safety Chief's Agenda

Kendell Poole, Director of the Tennessee Governor's Highway Safety Office, was re-elected for a third term as chairman of the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA), at the association's Annual Meeting, held earlier this month in Grand Rapids, Michigan. . . Chairman Poole noted GHSA remains committed to addressing the "Big 3" highway safety issues: impaired driving, occupant protection and speeding. Read the press release.

<http://www.ghsa.org/html/media/pressreleases/2014/20140930poole.html>

## Did You Know

### LEAF PEEPER SEASON! FACTS ABOUT FALL FOLIAGE

- Colors of the leaves are not Random...there is a reason.

- The amount of rain in a year affects autumn leaf color. A severe drought can delay the arrival of fall colors by a few weeks. A warm, wet period during the fall will lower the intensity, or brightness of the colors. A severe frost will kill the leaves, turning them brown and causing them to drop early.
- For you leaf peepers, you can identify species by fall color: Poplar is golden yellow, Hickories golden bronze, Oaks Red, brown or Russet, Birch will turn a bright Yellow.
- Unlike the bright colors of flowers, which attract pollinators, or the bright "Warning Colors" of many kinds of animals, the bright colors of fall foliage are a byproduct of chemical changes as the trees start to go dormant. These colors have no apparent biological function or significance.
- Bright sunlight is essential for the production of the red (anthocyanin) pigment in the fall leaves: if a black mask is placed on part of a leaf before it turns red, the part of the leaf under the mask will turn yellow while the exposed part will turn red.

Learn more online:

- 20 Tips: Dos and Don'ts for Leaf Peepers (YankeeFoliage.com)  
<http://www.yankeefoliage.com/features/dosanddnts/all>
- Foliage...Random Facts and Fall Colors (Activerain.trulia.com)  
<http://activerain.trulia.com/blogsviw/1256981/foilage---random-facts-and-fall-colors->
- Fall Foliage Facts (NCNatural.com) <http://www.ncnatural.com/wildflwr/fall/fallfact.html>
- Foliage Links to Fall and Autumn Foliage Resources (LeafPeepers.com)  
<http://www.leafpeepers.com/links.htm>
- The Facts About Foliage (blog.llbean.com) <http://blog.llbean.com/2013/10/the-facts-about-foilage/>
- Why Do Leaves Change Color in Autumn? (ScienceMadeSimple.com)  
<http://www.sciencemadesimple.com/leaves.html>