

# October 10, 2014 - Regional News

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## AAMVA News

### **Nominations for AAMVA's 2014 IDEC Award are Now Being Accepted**

AAMVA is kicking off the annual IDEC Examiner of the Year nominations process. All active jurisdictional participants in the International Driver Examiner Certification (IDEC) program are asked to recognize an outstanding driver examiner from their jurisdiction by nominating them for the IDEC Examiner of the Year Award. The Examiner of the Year honor is awarded to a driver examiner who consistently performs the duties and responsibilities of a certified examiner and diligently upholds the Examiner Professional Code of Ethics. After all nominations have been submitted, the AAMVA IDEC Board will select one examiner of the 2014 Outstanding Examiner of the Year Award. Please send a nomination letter and photo of your examiner to Denise Hanchulak by December 1, 2014. To read more about the past exceptional examiners, visit AAMVA's Website at [www.aamva.org/IDEC-Examiner-of-the-Year/](http://www.aamva.org/IDEC-Examiner-of-the-Year/)

## Region I

### **New Jersey Agencies Collaborate to Combat Driver's License Fraud**

If it wasn't for facial recognition technology matching Rickie Storie's three driver's licenses to his three identities, the New Jersey truck driver might not have been caught and convicted after his 64 suspensions and six DUI convictions. Read the full story at GovTech.com.

<http://www.govtech.com/public-safety/New-Jersey-Agencies-Collaborate-to-Combat-Drivers-License-Fraud.html>

### **School Bus Safety Requires Vigilance for Both Drivers and Pedestrians (Nova Scotia)**

Everyone has a role to play when it comes to school bus safety. Students must obey the rules outlined by the bus driver to ensure he or she can pay attention to the road, and fellow motorists must follow at safe distance and watch for the flashing yellow lights that indicate the bus is about to come to a stop. Read the full article on novanewsnow.com.

<http://www.novanewsnow.com/Community/2014-10-06/article-3892111/School-bus-safety-requires-vigilance-for-both-drivers-and-pedestrians/1>

### **Nova Scotia to Increase Fines for People Using Cellphones While Driving**

Nova Scotia is going to increase fines and add four demerit points for people convicted of using cellphones while driving as of Feb. 1. Read the full story at WinnipegFreePress.com.

[http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/arts-and-life/life/sci\\_tech/nova-scotia-to-increase-fines-for-people-using-cellphones-while-driving-277784751.html](http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/arts-and-life/life/sci_tech/nova-scotia-to-increase-fines-for-people-using-cellphones-while-driving-277784751.html)

### **Senate Votes to Expand Use of Ignition Locks (Pennsylvania)**

The Pennsylvania state Senate has approved legislation that would expand the use of ignition interlock devices for more drunk driving offenders. The Senate voted unanimously to send the bill to the state House of Representatives, although senators did so with just three scheduled session days before the two-year legislative session ends and the bill dies. Read the full article on WTAE.com.

<http://www.wtae.com/news/expand-use-of-dui-ignition-interlocks-pennsylvania-drunk-drivers/29019100#ixzz3FfQN6G82>

## **Region II**

### **SCDMV Warns of Calls Claiming to be Department Representative (South Carolina)**

The South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles is warning the public of fraudulent telephone calls from persons claiming to represent the department. The SCDMV says the callers tell citizens that South Carolina law requires them to purchase an extended warranty on their vehicle, which is not correct. Read the full story at WNCT.com.

<http://www.wnct.com/story/26714378/scdmv-warns-of-calls-claiming-to-be-department-representative>

## **Region III**

### **Warning Sparks Talk of Safe Ride Program at ISU (Illinois)**

Student government leaders at Illinois State University are considering a possible designated driver service that would be supported by student fees after Bloomington officials sent out notices that individuals cannot provide rides for a fee unless they are licensed under the city's taxi ordinance. Last spring, some people used social media, such as Facebook, to advertise their willingness to provide rides home from bars for a small fee — but that's illegal under Bloomington city code, said Bloomington communications manager Nora Dukowitz. Read the full article on the Pantagraph.com.

[http://www.pantagraph.com/news/local/education/warning-sparks-talk-of-safe-ride-program-at-isu/article\\_85fb19f6-d3b7-5e9f-838d-67cd7c7bf7db.html](http://www.pantagraph.com/news/local/education/warning-sparks-talk-of-safe-ride-program-at-isu/article_85fb19f6-d3b7-5e9f-838d-67cd7c7bf7db.html)

### **Editorial: Senior Checkups Can Include Driver Safety (Indiana)**

As we age, and hopefully mature, we commonly undergo health checkups. These exams remind everyone of such physical traits as the strength of arms or the flexibility of legs. Many times we know exactly what to expect before the trip to the doctor. Little pains crop up when walking up steps or typing on a keyboard. Those aches we sometimes disregard thinking we can work around those physical signs of aging. But when it comes to driving a vehicle, aging Hoosiers should do more than just rely on instinct when they might need a checkup. Read the full article in the Herald Bulletin.

[http://www.heraldbulletin.com/opinion/article\\_6bcdeae6-b776-5887-b3da-a1a49f164de8.html](http://www.heraldbulletin.com/opinion/article_6bcdeae6-b776-5887-b3da-a1a49f164de8.html)

### **Ohio Patrol Cruisers are Best-Looking in Nation, Contest Says**

The results are in - Ohio State Highway Patrol cruisers are the best-looking around. The cruisers nabbed 22,000 votes in the Facebook "Best Looking Cruiser Contest," the Patrol said Tuesday, with the West Virginia State Police trailing with 19,502 votes. Read the full story at DaytonDailyNews.com.

<http://www.daytondailynews.com/news/news/state-regional/ohio-patrol-cruisers-are-best-looking-in-nation-co/nhdQK/>

### **'Safer Ohio' App Enables Citizens to Report Suspicious Behavior**

A recently launched cell phone app is enabling the average citizen to report suspicious behavior to Ohio Homeland Security and other state officials. It's called "Safer Ohio," the Buckeye state's new multi-function, mobile public safety tool for reporting suspicious activity, requesting emergency or roadside help, and monitoring traffic conditions. Read the full story at WTOV9.com

[http://www.wtov9.com/shared/news/features/top-stories/stories/wtov\\_safer-ohio-app-enables-citizens-report-suspicious-behavior-5943.shtml](http://www.wtov9.com/shared/news/features/top-stories/stories/wtov_safer-ohio-app-enables-citizens-report-suspicious-behavior-5943.shtml)

### **Wisconsin DMV Offering Special Veterans Drivers Licenses and Photo ID**

The Department of Motor Vehicles is reminding veterans to get their specially designated drivers license they next time they come in for a renewal. DMV Driver Qualification chief Alison Lebwohl says this is an effort to help veterans get the recognition they deserve without having to carry so much identification. Read the full story at WSAU.com.

<http://wsau.com/news/articles/2014/oct/09/wisconsin-dmv-offering-special-veterans-drivers-licenses-and-photo-id/>

## **Region IV**

### **Anchorage Becomes Latest City to Challenge Uber (Alaska)**

The city of Anchorage on Friday filed a lawsuit in state Superior Court seeking an injunction requiring Uber, the digital car service, to stop operations just weeks after it began offering rides. Read the full story at WashingtonPost.com.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/govbeat/wp/2014/10/06/anchorage-becomes-latest-city-to-challenge-uber/>

### **Public Safety Officer Shot in Face; Attackers Still at Large (Arizona)**

An Arizona Department of Public Safety officer was expected to recover after being shot in the face after an early-morning traffic stop in Phoenix on Wednesday, and as many as five persons remained at large after eluding two backup officers who returned fire. Read the full story at FirstCoastNews.com.

<http://www.firstcoastnews.com/story/news/nation/2014/10/09/dps-officer-shot-arizona/16986063/>

### **B.C. 'Pastafarian' Loses Driver's Licence Over Holy Colander Hat (British Columbia)**

A B.C. 'Pastafarian' who wears a colander on his head has been stripped of his driver's licence, after he repeatedly refused to take off the holy headgear for his I.D. photo. The nearly year-long conflict between Obi Canuel, 36, and the Insurance Corp. of B.C. came to a boil Friday, when ICBC refused to renew Canuel's licence unless he went hatless for his I.D. photo. Canuel had been driving with a temporary paper licence for months after clashing publicly with the insurer in August. Read the full story at CTVNews.ca.

<http://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/b-c-pastafarian-loses-driver-s-licence-over-holy-colander-hat-1.2041844#ixzz3FTTy2GYy>

### **California Moves Ahead with Plan to Tax Drivers by the Mile**

Changes could be in store for how the state of California raises revenue for transportation work. Other changes approved by state lawmakers are intended to improve Caltrans operations and benefit military veterans. Read the full story at LandLineMag.com.

<http://www.landlinemag.com/Story.aspx?StoryID=27779#VDQIB1Pflvs>

### **CBI's Identity Theft Unit Gets Social (Colorado)**

The Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) Identity Theft/Fraud Unit has joined the social media conversation by launching a Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/CBI.IDTheft>) to share important information and to help reduce the impact of identity theft and fraud. Those who 'like' the CBI Identity Theft page will obtain details about current identity theft scams and other fraud-related information prevalent in Colorado and across the nation. Read the CSP press release.

<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/StatePatrol-Main/CBON/1251594670004>

### **'Singing Road' Built for Social Experiment TV Show (New Mexico)**

It's a familiar tune in an unfamiliar place -- "America the Beautiful," played by rumble strips embedded into Old Route 66. It's called a singing road, and the fifth of its kind in the world was built west of Tijeras. To get the road to sing, you have to reduce your speed to 45 mph and drive along a strip that's on the right side of the road. The road was paid for by the National Geographic Channel for a show called "Crowd Control" that premieres in November. The show conducts social experiments to see what changes peoples' behaviors. Read the full story at KOAT.com.

<http://www.koat.com/news/singing-road-built-for-social-experiment-tv-show/28363494>

## **Washington Texting-Driving Law Needs Update, Agency Says**

The Washington Traffic Safety Commission is asking state lawmakers to upgrade the texting-while-driving law to bring it from the flip-phone age to smart phone technology. Read the full story at KGW.com.

<http://www.kgw.com/story/news/local/2014/10/09/wash-texting-driving-law/16979217/>

## **Other News**

### **The Dangers of Talking to Your Car**

Just because you can talk to your car doesn't mean you should. Two new studies have found that voice-activated smartphones and dashboard infotainment systems may be making the distracted-driving problem worse instead of better. Read the full article in the Ledger Enquirer.

[http://www.ledger-enquirer.com/2014/10/07/3342598\\_talking-to-your-car-can-be-dangerous.html?rh=1#storylink=cpy](http://www.ledger-enquirer.com/2014/10/07/3342598_talking-to-your-car-can-be-dangerous.html?rh=1#storylink=cpy)

### **Voting Rights Cases May Be Headed Back to Supreme Court**

The Supreme Court's decision last year eliminating a barrier against voting procedure changes in mostly Southern states came with a caveat: Chief Justice John Roberts warned that the Voting Rights Act still included a "permanent, nationwide ban on racial discrimination in voting." Now federal courts from Texas to Wisconsin are on the verge of deciding whether Roberts was right — or if what remains of the 1965 law after the Supreme Court's 2013 ruling is less able to stop states from making it harder to vote. Read the full story at USAToday.com

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2014/09/11/voting-rights-states-courts-wisconsin-texas-north-carolina-ohio/15279621/>

### **Supreme Court Declines to Review Same-Sex Marriage Cases, Allowing Unions in 5 States**

The Supreme Court on Monday decided to let stand rulings that allow same-sex marriage in Virginia, Utah, Oklahoma, Indiana and Wisconsin, a move that may dramatically expand across the nation a decades-long movement legalizing such unions. Read the full story at WashingtonPost.com.

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/courts\\_law/supreme-court-declines-to-review-same-sex-marriage-cases/2014/10/06/ee822848-4d5e-11e4-babe-e91da079cb8a\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/courts_law/supreme-court-declines-to-review-same-sex-marriage-cases/2014/10/06/ee822848-4d5e-11e4-babe-e91da079cb8a_story.html)

### **Chairman Goodlatte Applauds Launch of “My E-Verify”**

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) today launched “My E-Verify,” which helps prevent identity theft by providing a mechanism for individuals to lock their Social Security numbers so that it cannot be used by another person to get a job. “My E-Verify” is now available in

Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Mississippi, Virginia, and Washington, D.C. and will soon be rolled out to the rest of the country. Read the full story at [Judiciary.House.gov](http://Judiciary.House.gov).

<http://www.judiciary.house.gov/index.cfm/2014/10/chairman-goodlatte-applauds-launch-of-my-e-verify>

### **Can We Talk: Creating a Common Language for Cybersecurity**

Experts are hopeful that a new framework released by the National Institute of Standards and Technology will give agencies a method to evaluate the security of their computing environments against their peers. As hacking attempts become more complex, governments continue to improve their cybersecurity presence through sophisticated firewalls and expanded procedures. But while high-profile data breaches have focused more state and municipal attention on cyberintrusions, a decidedly old-school problem continues to plague efforts to beef up security — communication. Read the full article on [GovTech.com](http://GovTech.com).

<http://www.govtech.com/security/Can-We-Talk-Creating-a-Common-Language-for-Cybersecurity.html>

### **Car Accidents Are Putting a Dent in Economy**

If your fancy car gets in a fender bender, there's a better chance it will be beyond repair. This year, 16% of cars in accidents are totaled by insurance-industry standards, up from 7% in 1995, according to Charlie Baker, publisher of Collision Repair Industry Insight, a trade magazine. While that's partly because cars last longer these days, elaborate safety features play a major role. Read the full story at [OnLine.WSJ.com](http://OnLine.WSJ.com).

<http://online.wsj.com/articles/SB109073216922572969>

## **Did You Know**

### **COLUMBUS DAY**

- Columbus Day is celebrated on the second Monday in October. Before it became a legal federal holiday in 1971, many states celebrated Columbus Day on October 12.
- It marks Christopher Columbus' first voyage to America. He landed on the island of Guanahani in the Bahamas on October 12, 1492.
- Columbus and a crew of 90 people, set sail about ten weeks earlier aboard their ships - Nina, Pinta, and Santa Maria.
- People have been commemorating this event since colonial times but in the US Colorado was the first state to make the day an official holiday in 1906.
- Columbus Day was named a federal holiday in 1937.
- Some people oppose the celebration of Columbus Day because of the cruelty to and decimation of indigenous peoples that followed his discovery.

- In the United States, four states do not recognize Columbus Day. Those states are Hawaii, Alaska, Oregon and South Dakota. Instead, Hawaii celebrates Discoverers' Day, South Dakota celebrates the day as Native American Day and Oregon does not recognize or commemorate the day. Other states, like Nevada and Iowa, do not celebrate the day as an official holiday.
- Considering how controversial Columbus is, there is a movement to replace Columbus Day with Indigenous People's Day. The city of Berkeley, in California, has been celebrating the day as such since 1992.

Learn more online:

- Columbus Day Fast Facts (CNN) <http://www.cnn.com/2013/06/14/us/columbus-day-fast-facts/>
- 6 Columbus Day Facts, Trivia, History and Myths (Latin Times) <http://www.latintimes.com/6-columbus-day-facts-trivia-history-and-myths-266555>
- Columbus Day (History.com) <http://www.history.com/topics/exploration/columbus-day>
- 12 Interesting Facts about Columbus Day (ParkRideFlyUSA.com) <http://www.parkrideflyusa.com/blog/2012/10/08/columbus-day-2012/>