



American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators

TWIR THE WEEK IN REVIEW

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November 3, 2014

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TWIRcast



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New Studies & Reports Section Added to AAMVA Web Site

AAMVA has collected several studies and reports from member jurisdictions and various like-minded organizations and has made these studies available on the AAMVA Web site. Check out the new [Non-AAMVA Studies & Reports](#) section.

AAMVA Mourns Passing of Colonel Anna Amos

AAMVA is very sad to report that Colonel Anna Amos passed away Thursday, October 30, following a brave and extended battle with cancer, a battle she won more than a few times. Many of you worked alongside of Anna when she served the state of South Carolina as Deputy Director and Colonel of the South Carolina Department of Public Safety's State Transport Police Division. During her state service she held numerous leadership positions, including Chair of the International Registration Plan Board of Directors.

In 2008, Anna was appointed to serve at the national level as USDOT Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's Director of Safety during which time she provided multiple briefings and strong partnership to AAMVA and its members. Anna began her law enforcement career in 1983 with the South Carolina Public Service Commission, where she was the first female hired as an Inspector with the Commission. In 1993, she transferred to the Motor Carrier Safety program of the Department of Public Safety and was responsible for enforcement of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations.

Anna's daughter D'Ann is an important member of the AAMVA family, she is executive assistant to our Business Services and CFO divisions. We know your prayers will be with D'Ann and her family.

AAMVA's Updated Awards Program

AAMVA's updated awards program fosters a tradition of excellence in the motor vehicle and law enforcement community. The awards allow AAMVA to honor individuals, teams and organizations who have committed their time and resources to safety initiatives, outstanding customer service, and public affairs and consumer educational programs throughout North America. Awards are presented both at the regional and international levels in the categories of:



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- Service,
- Safety,
- Security, and
- Public Affairs and Consumer Education.

Submission forms for all of AAMVA's awards programs are now available. Submission forms are due **February 14, 2015**. For more submission forms and more information, visit <http://www.aamva.org/AAMVA-Awards/>

Nominations for AAMVA's 2014 IDEC Examiner of the Year 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/

Autonomous Vehicle Best Practices Working Group Seeks Members

AAMVA is forming Autonomous Vehicles Best Practices Working Group made up of jurisdictions to:

- Research and gain an understanding of autonomous vehicles and other emerging vehicle technology, the impact they will have on the AAMVA membership, and define the potential regulatory concerns the technology will create. The working group shall establish a single point for collected information, and share information with the AAMVA community.
- Divide into subgroups (Vehicles and Drivers) to develop best practices for their respective disciplines.
- Provide the draft best practices to NHTSA and the AAMVA Driver, Vehicle and Law Enforcement Committees for review and comment.
- Review all comments and suggestions and release the Final Best Practices document to NHTSA and AAMVA jurisdictional members.

This Working Group commitment is two (2) years with anticipated conference calls and two (2) face-to-face meetings per year. AAMVA is seeking sixteen (16) US jurisdiction representatives made up of representatives with vehicle,

driver license, law enforcement, legal and IT operational and policy experience. Please complete the application form if you are interested in serving on the Autonomous Vehicle Best Practices Working Group. The purpose of the Working Group is to work with the AAMVA jurisdictions, law enforcement, federal agencies and other stakeholders to gather, organize and share information with the AAMVA community related to the development, design, testing, use and regulation of autonomous vehicles and other emerging vehicle technology. Based on the group's research, a best practices guide to assist member jurisdiction in regulating autonomous vehicles and testing the drivers who operate them will be developed. **Applications must be received by November 14.** For more information and to download the [application form](#), visit <http://www.aamva.org/Committees-and-Working-Groups/>

Share Information With Other Jurisdictions

Please respond to these surveys from Georgia, Kansas, South Carolina, Kentucky, California, Wisconsin, and Illinois. The jurisdictions that have already responded are listed after each survey.

- [Ignition Interlock](#) (Ends 11/12/2014) Responses received from BC, FL, NE, NH, OR, VT, WA.
- [Driver License System and Production](#) (Ends 11/18/2014) Responses received from FL, IN, MO, OH, VT, WA.
- [Customer Correspondence Tracking](#) (Ends 11/20/2014) Responses received from LA, VT, WA.
- [Software Used to Title and Register Vehicles](#) (Ends 11/28/2014) Response received from VT.
- [Legislative and Project Estimating](#) (Ends 11/28/2014) Responses received from FL, LA, VA, VT.
- [Branding Ride-Share as Taxi Cabs](#) (Ends 11/11/2014) Responses received from BC, DC, FL, IL, NE, OR, PA, VA, VT, WA, WY, YT.
- [Electronic Proof of Insurance](#) (Ends 11/11/2014) Responses received from AL, AR, BC, CA, DC, FL, IL, IN, NE, NH, NJ, OH, OR, PA, VA, VT, WA, YT.

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 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>.

Brennan Center for Justice Requests Information on Voter Registration

The Brennan Center for Justice, a nonpartisan law and policy institute, works nationwide to improve democracy and justice issues. The Brennan Center for Justice contacted AAMVA requesting assistance in collecting data on voter registration and has created a survey for the AAMVA membership. This survey seeks to assess the current voter registration processes at motor vehicle authorities nationwide. The survey asks questions related to MVA's database, associated systems, future plans, and voter registration systems.

The Brennan Center's goal is to use your responses to inform their work to advance reforms to voter registration at MVAs nationwide. The Brennan Center would greatly appreciate if you would complete the survey at your earliest convenience. You can access the survey [here](#). Please do not hesitate to contact Sophie Schuit, Research and Program Associate at: sophie.schuit@nyu.edu or (646) 292-8310, to discuss any questions you may have.

More than One-in-Five Fatal Crashes Involve Drowsy Drivers

According to new research from the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, more than one-in-five (21 percent) fatal crashes involve driver fatigue. These results help confirm what safety experts have long suspected: the prevalence of drowsy driving is much greater than official statistics from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) currently indicate. As daylight saving time ends and evening commutes darken, AAA urges drivers to recognize warning signs of driver fatigue and take action to avoid tragedy during this holiday season. The report also found that drowsy driving crashes, a mainstay in recent headlines, are not without consequence. One third of crashes involving a drowsy driver result in injuries and more than 6,000 fatigue-related crashes each year result in at least one fatality. Previous research from the AAA Foundation revealed that young adult drivers, ages 19-24, are the most likely to admit to driving while drowsy, with 33 percent reporting doing so in the last month. In contrast, the oldest drivers (ages 75+) and the youngest (ages 16-18) were the least likely to report the same offense. For more information, visit newsroom.aaa.com

FMCSA Requests Comments on Hearing Exemptions and Limitations on Vehicle Type

On October 27, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) [announced](#) that 17 individuals have applied for a medical exemption from the hearing requirement in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs). Statute and implementing regulations concerning exemptions require that exemptions must provide an equivalent or greater level of safety than if they were not granted. While the granting of exemptions is not new, this notice further requested "comments on whether a driver who cannot meet the hearing standard should be limited to operating only certain types of vehicles in interstate commerce, for example, vehicles without air brakes." AAMVA feels this request is an important inclusion and provides the opportunity to explore an issue that has gotten a fair amount of federal attention in the past few weeks. Comments must be received on or before November 26, 2014. If your jurisdiction submits comments, AAMVA requests you provide a copy of those comments to governmentaffairs@aamva.org so that AAMVA can carry those comments as an association.

USCIS Publishes Final Rule Regarding Notices of Decisions and Documents Evidencing Lawful Status

The Department of Homeland Security is amending its regulations governing when U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will issue correspondence, notices of decisions, and documents evidencing lawful status in the United States to an applicant, petitioner, attorney, or accredited representative. Specifically, this [final rule](#) explains how USCIS will issue requests, notices, cards, and original documents to applicants, petitioners and their attorneys or accredited representatives of record. It also amends

regulations to allow represented applicants to specifically consent to and request that notices, decisions, and secure identity documents be sent solely to the official business address of the applicants' attorney or accredited representative, as reflected on properly executed Notice of Entry of Appearance as Attorney or Accredited Representative. USCIS generally sends original notices and documents to the applicant or petitioner who requested the immigration benefit, but under certain limited circumstances (such as situations including a self-petitioner under the Violence Against Women Act) notices to an unrepresented applicant or petitioner may be sent to a location or person designated by the applicant or petitioner as "safe." The final rule is effective on January 27, 2015 with comments due before December 29, 2014. If your jurisdiction submits comment, AAMVA requests you provide a copy of those comments to governmentaffairs@aamva.org.

USDOT Wants Input on the Proposed Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) 2015 Guidance for Connected Vehicles

The FHWA plans to produce deployment guidance in 2015 on connected vehicles for transportation infrastructure owners/operators. Initial guidance is posted [here](#). The USDOT is seeking feedback from state and local departments of transportation, transit operators, other operating agencies, and infrastructure owners who are starting to plan for the deployment and use of connected vehicle technologies in their areas. Interested parties may provide comments on the initial draft guidance through November 14, 2014. Review source materials and provide comments at: http://www.its.dot.gov/meetings/v2i_feedback.htm, by Friday, November 14, 2014.