

# November 21, 2014 - Regional News

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## AAMVA News

### **AAMVA Leadership Academy Wraps Up**

AAMVA's very first Leadership Academy took place this week at AAMVA headquarters, bringing together 23 up-and-coming jurisdiction leaders for a week of professional development opportunities. This new program is designed for jurisdiction employees who have demonstrated leadership potential and the ability to succeed in positions of greater responsibility within their agencies. The week-long program is an intense training opportunity focused on the unique characteristics of leading and managing a motor vehicle or law enforcement agency. Check out the Leadership Academy Album <  
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/aamva/sets/72157647022342064/>> on AAMVA's Flickr page.

### **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 following categories:

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

Submission forms for the awards are due February 14, 2015. Visit the Awards Section (<http://www.aamva.org/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=5640>) for more information and to download the submission forms.

## Region I

### **New Ticket Adjudication Laws in Effect (District of Columbia)**

There are new adjudication laws in effect under the Traffic Adjudication Amendment Act of 2014, which changes the process for how customers adjudicate tickets. On October 1, 2014, the District of Columbia Department of Motor Vehicles implemented two significant changes to the adjudication process: submitting requests for reconsideration and filing a motion to vacate. Read the full press release.

<http://dmv.dc.gov/release/new-ticket-adjudication-laws-effect>

## **Prevalence of RMV's Veterans Indicator Grows; Registrar Encourages All Veterans to Add Indicator to Licenses & IDs (Massachusetts)**

Today, MassDOT Registrar of Motor Vehicles Celia J. Blue announced 30,000 Massachusetts veterans have elected to add the Veterans Indicator to their driver license and ID cards since the feature became available in 2012. Read the full press release.

<http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/main/tabid/1075/ctl/detail/mid/2937/itemid/510/-Prevalence-of-RMV-s-Veterans-Indicator-Grows--Registrar-Encourages-All-Veterans-To-Add-Indicator-To-Licenses---IDs-.aspx>

## **Massachusetts Drivers License Expiration Dates**

Massachusetts drivers may soon need to enter another reminder in their datebooks. Governor Patrick has filed legislation that would change the current practice of having your driver's licenses expire on your birthday. Read the full story at WWLP.com.

<http://wwlp.com/2014/11/20/massachusetts-drivers-license-expiration-dates/>

## **Uber Must Yield to City Oversight (New York)**

Advocates for safe streets and safe taxis have had much to be thankful for this fall: the 25-mile-per-hour speed limit now in effect citywide, more Taxis of Tomorrow with safer partitions and high-visibility seatbelts, and new Taxi and Limousine Commission powers to suspend a hack's license after a crash that results in critical injury or death. Read the full article in nydailynews.com.

[www.nydailynews.com/opinion/miller-o-loughlin-uber-yield-city-oversight-article-1.2011594](http://www.nydailynews.com/opinion/miller-o-loughlin-uber-yield-city-oversight-article-1.2011594)

## **Region II**

### **State of Georgia Driver Services Commissioner Announces Motorcycle Safety Grant Award**

Department of Driver Services (DDS) Commissioner Rob Mikell today announced that the agency has been awarded grant funds totaling \$99,600 for the Georgia Motorcycle Safety Program (GMSP). The Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS) approved the funds to be used for increased share the road and impaired riding initiatives and motorcycle safety awareness. Read the full press release.

<http://www.dds.ga.gov/news/newsdetail.aspx?id=369>

### **Motor Fuel Tax Rate to Decline by 4.3 Cents per Gallon on January 1 (Kentucky)**

Kentucky's "gas tax" on sales of gasoline, diesel and ethanol motor fuels will drop by 4.3 cents per gallon on New Year's Day, resulting in a loss to the Kentucky Road Fund of about \$129 million on an annualized basis. Read the Kentucky Transportation Department press release.

<http://transportation.ky.gov/Pages/PressReleasePage.aspx?&FilterField1=ID&FilterValue1=106>

## **TxDOT Helps Motorists Drive Clean During Busy Holiday Season**

As drivers take to the roads for holiday shopping and family visits, the Texas Department of Transportation offers its new "Roadcents" Web app to reduce air pollution and keep vehicles well-maintained. Read the DOT press release.

<http://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/media-center/statewide-news/057-2014.html>

## **Draft Report: Ride-Sharing to Top Taxis in Virginia**

A draft state report predicts taxis will be outnumbered by ride-sharing drivers after Virginia begins regulating the industry. The report estimates that 5,900 personal vehicles would be registered under a ride-sharing company. That's 500 more than the number of taxis currently operating in Virginia, according to The Virginian-Pilot (<http://bit.ly/14yihLi>), which obtained a copy of the draft report by the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles. Read the full story at WashingtonPost.com.

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/draft-report-ride-sharing-to-top-taxis-in-va/2014/11/17/a4b8656c-6e54-11e4-a2c2-478179fd0489\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/draft-report-ride-sharing-to-top-taxis-in-va/2014/11/17/a4b8656c-6e54-11e4-a2c2-478179fd0489_story.html)

## **3 Sentenced in West Virginia Driver's License Scheme**

Three men have been sentenced on charges stemming from a driver's license scheme. U.S. Attorney William J. Ihlenfeld says the scheme involved producing and selling forged West Virginia driver's licenses. Read the full story at EnquirerHerald.com.

<http://www.enquirerherald.com/2014/11/18/3271588/3-sentenced-in-wva-drivers-license.html?sp=/99/117/365/>

## **Official: West Virginia License Plates to Have New Look**

A Division of Motor Vehicles official says West Virginia license plates are getting a new, flatter look. Acting DMV commissioner Steven Dale says license plates at the Mount Olive Correctional Complex will soon be digitally produced and no longer have raised lettering. Read the full story at WTRF.com.

<http://www.wtrf.com/story/27423287/official-wva-license-plates-to-have-new-look>

## **Region III**

### **Winter Tire Program (Manitoba)**

In September 2014, the Government of Manitoba and Manitoba Public Insurance launched a new Winter Tire Program which is intended to promote winter tire use in Manitoba by providing low-interest financing to eligible Manitobans for the purchase of up to \$2,000 in qualifying winter tires and associated costs from participating retailers. Read the MPI news release.

<http://www.mpi.mb.ca/en/Newsroom/News-Releases/Pages/nr2014nov17.aspx>

## Region IV



AAMVA was saddened to learn that Del Pierce passed away on November 2 in Reno, Nevada. Del (Adelbert) Pierce was a former director of the California Department of Motor Vehicles, and was also president of AAMVA in 1989-90. Del started his career with the State of California in September of 1967, as an investigator with the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control. This was briefly interrupted when he was drafted into the United States Army in January of 1968 as a Criminal Investigator. Upon being honorably discharged, he returned to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control. He transferred to the California Department of Justice where he graduated from the FBI Academy, and worked his way up from

Special Agent in the Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement to the Chief of the Investigations and Enforcement Branch of the Division of Law Enforcement.

### **California to Receive Federal Funding to Curb Texting While Driving**

The U.S Department of Transportation is sending Sacramento \$1.5 Million to combat distracted driving across the state. The funding is said to go specifically towards Public Service Announcements and for increased police enforcement of the use of cell phones while driving. Read the full story at [DistractedDriverAccidents.com](http://DistractedDriverAccidents.com).

<http://distracteddriveraccidents.com/california-millions-federal-funding-curb-distracted-driving/>

### **DMV Opens Temp Outlets to Meet Immigrant Demand (California)**

California's Department of Motor Vehicles has opened three new temporary outlets as it expects to issue over 1 million licenses to people in the country illegally. The DMV announced Monday that new offices have opened in Lompoc, Stanton and Granada Hills. Another is set to open in San Jose Dec. 1. Read the full story at [KTVU.com](http://KTVU.com).

<http://www.ktvu.com/story/27412242/dmv-opens-temp-outlets-to-meet-immigrant-demand>

### **Ticket Scofflaws Owe State \$10.2 Billion (California)**

In the next year, about 20 percent of drivers will be convicted of speeding, rolling through stop signs or failing to stop at red lights, while another 8 percent will likely get off with a warning, and many more will be ticketed for parking illegally, having expired tags or some other bit of minor motor malfeasance. Read the full story at [OCRegister.com](http://OCRegister.com).

<http://www.ocregister.com/articles/debt-642337-court-pay.html>

### **Oregon Voters Vote Against Law Giving Driver's Licenses To Undocumented Residents**

In a popular vote, Oregon voters said "No" when asked if they would support a measure that would have given undocumented residents driving licenses. The measure was a follow-up to a state law that allowed undocumented residents to have driver's licenses. Read the full story at LatinPost.com.

<http://www.latinpost.com/articles/26009/20141117/oregon-voters-vote-against-state-law-giving-drivers-licenses-to-undocumented-residents.htm>

### **'Pastafarian' Ex-Porn Star Gains the Right to Wear a Pasta Strainer in Her Driver's License Photo (Utah)**

When Asia Lemmon, a former adult film star and mother of two, visited the Department of Motor Vehicles in Hurricane, Utah to renew her driver's license recently, her experience roughly resembled that of most Americans: She stood in line, filled out forms, and signed tedious paperwork. Read the full story at ThinProgress.org.

<http://thinkprogress.org/justice/2014/11/19/3594243/why-an-ex-porn-star-wore-a-pasta-strainer-in-her-drivers-license-photo/>

### **Seven Troopers Join Wyoming Highway Patrol**

A Wyoming Supreme Court justice commissioned seven new Highway Patrol troopers Nov. 6 in Cheyenne, according to a press release from the Wyoming Highway Patrol. The new troopers took their oaths and received their badges in front of family and friends at the Wyoming Supreme Court. The ceremony marked the 86th academy graduating class. Read the full story in the Casper Star Tribune.

[http://trib.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/seven-troopers-join-wyoming-highway-patrol/article\\_7b6ac287-9620-5e4c-8bd9-c196bd707bf2.html](http://trib.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/seven-troopers-join-wyoming-highway-patrol/article_7b6ac287-9620-5e4c-8bd9-c196bd707bf2.html)

## **Other News**

### **Gemalto Acquires Marquis ID**

Gemalto, the world leader in digital security, today announces that it has acquired all of the outstanding shares of Marquis ID Systems (MIDS), a primary provider of fully integrated solutions and services for Drivers License and Identification in the United States. Read the full story at Finance.Yahoo.com.

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/gemalto-acquires-marquis-id-systems-063121558.html>

### **States Moving on Gas Tax Hikes on Their Own**

Several states are considering increases of their own gas taxes, as Congress struggles to come up to boost federal transportation funding. Transportation advocates in Washington had hoped lawmakers would consider increasing the 18.4 cents-per-gallon federal gas tax for the first time in two decades during the lame-duck session that began this week. Read the full story at TheHill.com.

<http://thehill.com/policy/transportation/224083-states-moving-on-gas-tax-hikes-on-their-own>

## **Bicyclist Fatalities Rise As More Urban Workers Pedal to Work**

The number of bicyclists killed on U.S. roadways is trending upward, particularly for certain subsets of the population, according to a by the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA). Read the full story at [insurancejournal.com](http://www.insurancejournal.com).

<http://www.insurancejournal.com/news/national/2014/11/18/347084.htm>

## **Ford Recalls Fusions for Ignition Key Problems**

Ford is recalling about 65,000 Fusion midsize cars in North America because the ignition keys can be removed if the transmission is not in park. Read the full story at [CBS6Albany.com](http://www.cbs6albany.com).

<http://www.cbs6albany.com/news/features/top-story/stories/ford-recalls-fusions-ignition-key-problem-21131.shtml>

## **Valid USA Awarded Washington's Driver's License Contract**

Valid USA has been designated the Apparently Successful Vendor by the State of Washington's Department of Licensing for a new enrollment and central issuance system for driver's licenses and identification cards. Read the full story at [Finance.Yahoo.com](http://finance.yahoo.com).

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/valid-usa-awarded-washingtons-drivers-161700150.html>

## **Did You Know**

### **ALL ABOUT TURKEY!**

#### **Underwriters Laboratory (UL) Give Turkey Friers the Cold Shoulder**

The UL has decided to no longer certify turkey fryers due to the increasing instances of fires and serious burns associated with their use. Learn more at

[http://www.wsp.wa.gov/information/releases/2013\\_archive/mr112013.htm](http://www.wsp.wa.gov/information/releases/2013_archive/mr112013.htm)

#### **Turkey 101: Tips for Cooking a Delicious Turkey**

Looking for great tips on how to cook the perfect turkey this Thanksgiving? Learn about freshness, brine, basting, and how to roast a stuffed, and unstuffed turkey to perfection at

<http://www.redlandsdailyfacts.com/lifestyle/20131116/turkey-cooking-tips-for-a-delicious-thanksgiving>

Five Most Popular Ways to Cook a Turkey (and other trivia, tips and recipes)

1. Roasted
2. Steamed
3. Deep fried
4. Grilled
5. Smoked

More interesting turkey stuff is available at <http://farmflavor.com/turkeymagazine>