

# April 10, 2015 - Regional News

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## AAMVA News

### Martha Irwin Award Nomination Forms Due April 15th

The Martha Irwin Award for Lifetime Achievement in Highway Safety is presented annually to an AAMVA member jurisdiction employee, or other individual whose primary function is directly associated with highway and traffic safety efforts. An award is presented for achievement in highway safety in Motor Vehicle Administration and one for achievement in highway safety in Law Enforcement. For more information and to download the nomination form, visit <http://www.aamva.org/Martha-Irwin-Award/>. **Nomination forms are due April 15, 2015.**

### Online Registration Now Open for Region IV and Region II Conferences

- Region IV Conference -- June 1-4 -- Park City, Utah  
Conference Web site | Register Online  
<http://www.aamva.org/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=5613> |  
<https://www.aamva.org/profile/ListAllEventRegistrations.aspx>
- Region II Conference -- June 21-24 -- Montgomery, Alabama  
Conference Web site | Register Online  
<http://www.aamva.org/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=6368> |  
<https://www.aamva.org/profile/ListAllEventRegistrations.aspx>

## Region I

### Massachusetts Institutes New Headlight Law

Massachusetts has a new law taking effect on April 7, 2015, which requires the use of headlights and taillights on motor vehicles during inclement weather and when windshield wipers are in use. Read the full story at WNYT.com.

<http://wnyt.com/article/stories/S3758075.shtml?cat=300>

### Pennsylvania Traffic Deaths Hit New Record Low in 2014

Traffic deaths in Pennsylvania in 2014 reached an all-time low, continuing a favorable trend as safety advocates work towards the nationwide goal of zero fatalities, acting PennDOT Secretary Leslie S. Richards said today. The 2014 number totaled 1,195, the lowest since recordkeeping began in 1928. Read the DOT press release.

<http://www.dot.state.pa.us/Internet/pdNews.nsf/8c5bc4e349ab4db6852576c800678468/d6c6143045bf916885257e21004d10c7?OpenDocument>

## Region II

### **Two Specialty Tags Get New Name and Look (Florida)**

The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles announces the release of two specialty license plates that have been provided new looks and new names. The current Catch Me Release Me plate has been redesigned and is now called Protect Our Oceans. Also being released is the new Wildlife Foundation of Florida plate, which will take the place of the current Sportsmen's National Land Trust plate. Read the DHSMV press release.

<http://www.flhsmv.gov/2015/04/08/two-specialty-tags-get-new-name-and-look/>

### **Driver Services Commissioner Launches Newest Online Service (Georgia)**

Today Department of Driver Services (DDS) Commissioner Rob Mikell announced a new Online Service designed to simplify and accelerate the process for customers applying for a Limo Chauffeur Endorsement. Customers will now complete and submit the application and supporting documentation via the DDS' secure website: [www.dds.ga.gov](http://www.dds.ga.gov). Benefits of this new service will be the reduction of incomplete applications, elimination of postage, notary and money order fees and a faster processing time -- saving customers and DDS time and money. Read the DDS press release.

<http://www.dds.ga.gov/news/newsdetail.aspx?id=377>

### **West Virginia DMV Nominated for StateScoop 50 Award**

The West Virginia Division of Motor Vehicles' (DMV) efforts to make their services more accessible to citizens has once again earned national attention. The DMV's IT program is nominated in the StateScoop 50 Awards for the State IT Program of the Year category. The finalist will be decided by public votes made prior to the April 17 deadline. Read the full story at [MarketWatch.com](http://MarketWatch.com).

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/west-virginia-dmv-nominated-for-statescoop-50-award-2015-04-09>

## Region III

### **Manitoba Enacts New Privacy Legislation: "The Personal Information Protection And Identity Theft Prevention Act"**

Manitoba has recently enacted private sector privacy legislation titled The Personal Information Protection and Identity Theft Prevention Act (PIPITPA), and is now the fourth province to pass a private sector law of this scope, following Alberta, Québec, and British Columbia. Read the full story at [ILSTV.com](http://ILSTV.com).

<http://www.ilstv.com/manitoba-enacts-new-privacy-legislation-the-personal-information-protection-and-identity-theft-prevention-act/#.VSWBDdh0yUk>

### **Michigan Lawmakers Fixing Mistake in Drunken-Driving Law**

Most U.S. states now have bans on texting while driving, and those laws may be preventing some serious traffic accidents, a new study suggests. Researchers found that car-crash hospitalizations dipped in states that instituted relatively strict bans on texting and driving between 2003 and 2010. Read the full story at MonroeNews.com.

[http://www.monroenews.com/news/2015/apr/06/michigan-lawmakers-fixing-mistake-drunken-driving-/  
/](http://www.monroenews.com/news/2015/apr/06/michigan-lawmakers-fixing-mistake-drunken-driving-/)

### **BMV's Grocery Store Kiosks that Promise Quick, Easy Vehicle Registration Set to Open Over Next Month (Ohio)**

Ohioans in and around Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati soon will be able to jot "renew license plates" on their grocery store shopping lists. Read the full story at Cleveland.com.

[http://www.cleveland.com/open/index.ssf/2015/04/bmvs\\_grocery\\_store\\_kiosks\\_that.html#incart\\_river](http://www.cleveland.com/open/index.ssf/2015/04/bmvs_grocery_store_kiosks_that.html#incart_river)

### **Office of Highway Safety Unveils New Seatbelt Commercial (South Dakota)**

A new state Office of Highway Safety commercial that highlights how not wearing a seatbelt can bring unnecessary suffering and sorrow to a crash victim's loved ones began airing on South Dakota television stations last Wednesday. Read the DPS press release.

<http://news.sd.gov/newsitem.aspx?id=17478>

## **Region IV**

### **Half a Million California Immigrants Seek Licenses, Exceeding Projections**

A surge of undocumented immigrants seeking driver's licenses has caught the California Department of Motor Vehicles off guard and underscored the massive interest in the new program. Read the full story at SacBee.com.

<http://www.sacbee.com/news/politics-government/capitol-alert/article17313002.html#storylink=cpy>

### **Ruling May Make It Easier to Lose Your Driver's License in DUI Cases (California)**

It's just one more reason not to drink and get behind the wheel. In a case out of Orange County, the California Supreme Court on Monday ruled that the Department of Motor Vehicles can consider circumstantial evidence, like swerving or failing a field sobriety test, to prove a driver's blood-alcohol content was above the legal limit. Read the full story at ORegister.com.

<http://www.oregister.com/articles/case-656980-alcohol-blood.html>

## **4.2 Million Have Lost Driver's Licenses Because of Unpaid Fees (California)**

Unpaid traffic fines and mushrooming fees have left 4.2 million Californians with suspended driver's licenses — more than one-sixth of the licenses issued statewide — with poor people the hardest-hit, according to a newly published study that criticizes policies that take drivers off the road because of debts they can't pay. Read the full story at SFGate.com.

<http://www.sfgate.com/cars/article/4-2-million-have-lost-drivers-license-because-6187538.php>

## **Get the Message? ITD Tests What Resonates With Drivers (Idaho)**

When it comes to highway safety, displaying the right message is central to understanding the science behind influencing driver behavior. To that end, the Idaho Transportation Department is studying what messages work best for Idaho's overhead electronic message boards installed along state highways. Read the full story at ValleyTimesIdaho.com.

<http://www.valleytimesidaho.com/NewVTweb.pdf>

## **Uber Bill Becomes Law in Idaho**

Idaho Gov. Butch Otter on Monday let House Bill 262, or "the Uber bill", become law without his signature. The bill lets ride sharing companies like Uber regulate themselves and not have to deal with regulations or laws imposed by city governments. Read the full story at KTVP.com.

<http://www.ktvb.com/story/news/local/capitol-watch/2015/04/06/uber-bill-becomes-law-in-idaho/25381493/>

## **House Votes to End Far-Reaching Auto Dealer Hours Mandate (Idaho)**

Small Idaho auto dealers are one step closer to working with fewer government mandates. Idaho House members voted 69 to 0 Monday to repeal an administrative rule requiring small car-sellers to keep their doors open 20 hours a week or more. Read the full story at IdahoReporter.com.

<http://idahoreporter.com/37296/house-votes-to-end-far-reaching-auto-dealer-hours-mandate/>

## **Oregon DMV Office Wait Times Now Online**

Oregon DMV is posting approximate wait times for the 37 of its 60 field offices equipped with automated wait-time systems. This allows customers to pick an office based on the wait time. It's especially helpful for those who live in areas with more than one DMV office nearby. Read the full story at KTVZ.com.

<http://www.ktvz.com/news/oregon-dmv-office-wait-times-now-online/32265976>

## **Fourth DUI a Felony Under Bill OK'd by Washington Senate**

Motorists who rack up four convictions for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs would face a felony charge under a bill that the Washington Senate passed unanimously Friday. Read the full story at Spokesman.com.

<http://www.spokesman.com/stories/2015/apr/04/fourth-dui-a-felony-under-bill-okd-by-washington/>

## Other News

### **States Flouting Post-9/11 ID Law, Giving Cards to Illegal Immigrants That Mirror Licenses**

After the 9/11 attacks, Congress passed the REAL ID Act to prevent foreign nationals from fraudulently obtaining a U.S. driver's license -- by requiring that any ID issued based on unverifiable foreign documents look different in "design or color" from an official driver's license. Read the full article on [www.foxnews.com](http://www.foxnews.com).

<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2015/04/08/states-flouting-post-11-id-law-giving-cards-to-illegal-immigrants-that-mirror/>

### **Texting Bans Tied to Drop in Car Crash Injuries**

Most U.S. states now have bans on texting while driving, and those laws may be preventing some serious traffic accidents, a new study suggests. Researchers found that car-crash hospitalizations dipped in states that instituted relatively strict bans on texting and driving between 2003 and 2010. Read the full story at KHQ.com.

<http://www.khq.com/story/28714111/texting-bans-tied-to-drop-in-car-crash-injuries>

### **Despite Backlash, Uber Has No Plans to Turn in Keys in Canada**

The strongarm tactics some Canadian cities have been using against virtual ride-hailing company Uber have prompted the organization to try to mend fences with local officials even as it maintains hope for further expansion. Read the full story at TheStarPhoenix.com.

<http://www.thestarphoenix.com/news/Despite+backlash+Uber+plans+turn+keys+Canada/10948536/story.html>

### **Business Travellers Are Shifting Away from Taxis and Limos, Favouring Uber Rides Instead**

Business travellers are bypassing the taxi queue with greater frequency, choosing instead ride-hailing services like Uber Technologies. Read the full story at TheGlobeandMail.com.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/world/business-travellers-are-shifting-away-from-taxis-and-limos-favouring-uber-rides-instead/article23824766/>

### **Obama Immigration Battle Moves to 5th Circuit After 11 Judge Upholds Stay**

In an expected move that leaves the status of up to 5 million immigrants in the U.S. illegally unchanged, a federal judge in Texas refused to lift his order putting on hold President Obama's executive action dealing with the politically charged issue. Read the full story at LATimes.com.

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/la-na-ff-immigration-ruling-20150408-story.html>

## Did You Know

### AUTOMOTIVE PAINT

The color of your vehicle is something that is never over-looked, though not many of us ever bothered to ask how it came to be. A lot of technological advancement has gone into creating that eye-catching finish on your ride, no matter what color you choose.

Here are just a few things about automotive paint that I learned online:

- In the beginning, nitrocellulose lacquer allowed paint companies to make a lacquer resin that dried quickly, was much more durable than shellac in the sunshine and could soon be created in colors other than black.
- However, it dried so fast you couldn't brush it smooth; it had to be sprayed.
- A Toledo, Ohio, ear, nose and throat doctor took what he learned from inventing the atomizer to disperse medicine in vapor form and invented the first spray gun.
- One legend has it that on a Friday in July 1921, a worker at the DuPont film plant left a drum of gun cotton (cotton fibers treated with a nitrate solution) out on a loading dock during a very hot weekend. The following Monday morning, concerned workers brought the drum inside and opened it up. To their amazement, what they found inside was a clear, viscous liquid. This liquid became the foundation of nitrocellulose lacquer, which was the leading automotive finish for nearly 50 years.
- In the two years following, many improvements were made in regard to force drying, application methods and product formula.
- In 1923, the 1924 Oakland (a precursor of the Pontiac) was the first production automobile to be spray painted.
- During the 1930s, both nitrocellulose lacquer and alkyd enamel were used in automobile production.
- Chrysler, Ford, Nash, Willy's and Studebaker used alkyd enamels on their offerings, while General Motors and many smaller independent manufacturers used lacquer. These products and their derivations were used well into the '70s
- Today, the most common types of paint used for automotive paint are lacquer paints, and enamel resins.
- Lacquer paints dry in a single operation, the evaporation of the solvent (lacquer thinner). Time has no effect, and any lacquer film can be re-softened by the addition of more solvent.
- Enamel resins dry in two steps: the evaporation of the solvent (enamel reducer) and the oxidation of the resin by contact with air.

Learn more online:

- A Brief History Of Car Colors — And Why Are We So Boring Now?  
<http://consumerist.com/2014/10/10/a-brief-history-of-car-colors-and-why-are-we-so-boring-now/>
- Technology in Action: The Evolution of Auto Paint  
<http://blog.allstate.com/history-of-automotive-paint/>
- A History of Automotive Finishes  
<http://www.bodyshopbusiness.com/a-history-of-automotive-finishes/>
- Behind the Paint: History!  
<http://www.bodyshopbusiness.com/behind-the-paint-history/>
- Why is Auto Body Repair So Expensive?  
<http://www.mechanicadvisor.com/articles/why-is-auto-body-repair-so-expensive>
- 8 Absurdly Pricey Auto Paint Jobs  
<http://www.popularmechanics.com/cars/g738/8-absurdly-pricey-paint-jobs/>