

July 17, 2015 - Regional News

AAMVA News

Region I Conference Downloads Available

Presentations from the AAMVA Region I Conference this week in Hershey, PA, are now available for download. Visit the Region I Conference Downloads page today! <http://www.aamva.org/2015-Region-I-Conference-Download-Center/>

Register Online for AAMVA Conferences

- Annual International Conference – August 25-27 – Des Moines, Iowa
Conference Web Site | Register Online
<http://www.aamva.org/2015-AIC-Home/> |
<https://www.aamva.org/profile/ListAllEventRegistrations.aspx>
- 2015 Region III Information Exchange – November 3-5 – Oak Brook, Illinois
Conference Web Site | Register Online
<http://www.aamva.org/2015-Region-III-Exchange/> |
<https://www.aamva.org/profile/ListAllEventRegistrations.aspx>

Region I

\$25 Million Project to Modernize Connecticut DMV Computer System

Connecticut's Department of Motor Vehicles will shut down for a week next month or in September – with the sole exception of driver licensing services – to switch over to a new computer system under a \$25 million project that's been in the works for the better part of a decade, a department spokesman confirmed Monday. Read the full article in govtech.com.

<http://www.govtech.com/state/25-Million-Project-to-Modernize-Connecticut-DMV-Computer-System.html>

Rules for Delaware Immigrant Driving Card Debated

The debate over whether to give illegal immigrants a lawful way to drive in Delaware has not ended with the creation of new state-issued "privilege cards." Controversy over a requirement to submit fingerprints is expected to continue into June, when a legislative task force will reconvene to investigate possible changes. Read the full article in delawareonline.com.

<http://www.delawareonline.com/story/news/traffic/2015/07/14/debate-immigrant-driving-cards-likely-continue/30163129/>

Legislation Not Necessary to Recall Confederate Plates, Maryland Officials Say

The Maryland attorney general's office says legislative action isn't necessary for the state to recall license plates bearing the Confederate battle flag. Read the full story in The Baltimore Sun.

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/bs-md-confederate-attorney-general-opinion-20150715-story.html>

Teen Driving Decals Don't Reduce Crashes, Study Says (New Jersey)

Do you remember those small red decals the state requires teen drivers to place on the license plates of their cars? It turns out they don't seem to reduce crashes for drivers with learner permits, according to a new study. Read the full article in nj.com.

http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2015/06/teen_driving_decals_dont_reduce_crashes_study.html

FOP Asks Pennsylvania to Reconsider Phasing Out Registration Stickers

The rectangular stickers affixed to every Pennsylvania license plate will soon be relics — unless state lawmakers reverse course and decide to keep them after hearing concerns from law enforcement officials. Read the whole article on Triblive.com.

<http://triblive.com/news/allegheeny/8735983-74/registration-sticker-stickers#ixzz3g9vBM5a1>

State Mulls Cameras to Nab Speeders in Work Zones (Pennsylvania)

Lead-footed drivers might want to flash a smile for the cameras as they cruise through work zones if the state follows through on plans to crack down on speeders. Read the full article in Sharonherald.com.

http://www.sharonherald.com/news/state-mulls-cameras-to-nab-speeders-in-work-zones/article_2c720f24-2b4e-11e5-915d-ebbc211046f5.html

Region II

DHSMV Releases New and Redesigned License Plates (Florida)

Beginning this week, Floridians have four new designs from which to choose when purchasing a specialty license plate. The American Legion and the Florida Veterans of the Armed Services plates are recent additions to the selection of specialty tags, and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and Florida International University tags feature updated designs. Read the press release.

<http://www.flhsmv.gov/2015/07/13/dhsmv-releases-new-and-redesigned-license-plates/>

State Approves New Policy for School Bus Safety (North Carolina)

Under a new safety policy, school bus riders throughout Sampson County will have to pay more attention to their driver before crossing the street. Read the full article in the Sampson Independent.

<http://clintonnc.com/news/1892/state-approves-new-policy-for-school-bus-safety>

Controversial anti-drunk driving campaign suspended (Tennessee)

Tax dollars paid for a new anti-drunk driving campaign that some are calling insensitive, insulting and infuriating. The bar coasters and bathroom posters target young males. Read the full article on wsmv.com.

<http://www.wsmv.com/story/29548600/controversial-anti-drunk-driving-campaign-suspended#ixzz3gAPdNxTd>

West Virginia DMV Says Online Services Are In Full Swing

West Virginians are taking advantage of online services offered by the Division of Motor Vehicles, skipping the trip to the DMV's physical offices. DMV Commissioner Pat Reed said he was proud to join Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin to focus on providing citizens more access, transparency and convenience in relation to state government services. Read the full article in the statejournal.com.

<http://www.statejournal.com/story/29544201/west-virginia-dmv-says-online-services-in-full-swing>

Region III

Free Illinois License Plates For Combat Veterans Under New Law

Combat veterans returning from active duty will qualify for free Illinois license plates under legislation signed by Gov. Bruce Rauner. Read the full article in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/free-illinois-license-plates-for-combat-veterans-under-new-law/article_4d74e73d-36d5-5eb5-b0fa-87e37328449b.html

Young Drivers Hit With Cell Ban (Indiana)

It wasn't just some young adults who were surprised July 1 when restrictions banning cellphone use for drivers younger than 21 went into effect. Read the full article in The Journal Gazette.

<http://www.journalgazette.net/news/local/indiana/Young-drivers-hit-with-cell-ban-7749012>

Missouri Measure May Allow Drunk Drivers to Regain License Sooner After DUI Conviction

Democratic Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon has signed a measure that could allow those convicted of driving while intoxicated to get back on the road sooner. Read the full article in kshb.com.

<http://www.kshb.com/news/state/missouri/missouri-measure-may-allow-drunk-drivers-to-regain-license-sooner>

Missouri Measure to End Fees for Purple Heart License Plates

A new Missouri measure soon will waive fees for certain veterans who want specialty Purple Heart license plates. Read the full article in the Springfield News-Leader.

<http://www.news-leader.com/story/news/local/missouri/2015/07/14/missouri-measure-to-end-fees-for-purple-heart-license-plates/30123883/>

Ohio Changes Age Rules for Teen Drivers

A driver's age does not contribute to how well someone drives, instead, actual time behind the wheel does, according to the state of Ohio. This belief explains the recent change in the Ohio Graduated License Law. Read the full article on Fox19.com.

<http://www.fox19.com/story/29556961/ohio-changes-age-rules-for-teen-drivers>

Wisconsin State Patrol Is Recruiting For Troopers and Inspectors

The Wisconsin State Patrol is recruiting for troopers and inspectors for its next recruit class, which will begin training on January 10, 2016, and graduate on July 1, 2016. Previous recruit classes have ranged in size from 25 to 52 cadets. Read the press release for more information.

<http://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/about-wisdot/newsroom/news-rel/468-co-dsp.aspx>

Parking Ticket Exemption Proposed in Green Bay to Deter Drunk Driving (Wisconsin)

A Green Bay Alderman wants to eliminate parking tickets for people who are too drunk to drive home. Some believe it would cut down on the number of drunk drivers, while others think it could lead to additional problems. Read the full article in wbay.com.

<http://wbay.com/2015/07/11/parking-ticket-exemption-proposed-in-green-bay-to-deter-drunk-driving/>

Region IV

ADOT Using Facial Recognition Software to Combat License Forgery

Authorities charged a Glendale man with forgery after Arizona Motor Vehicle Division, or MVD, facial recognition software flagged the man as having a license under a name other than his own, according to court paperwork. Read the full article on abc15.com.

<http://www.abc15.com/news/region-west-valley/glendale/adot-using-facial-recognition-software-to-combat-license-forgery>

More Use Phones While Driving (California)

California drivers sure have had their hands full this year. One in 10 drivers had their attention diverted by texting, calling or fumbling with their phones — a nearly 40% increase from last year, according to an

annual observational study conducted on behalf of the state's Office of Traffic Safety. Read the full article in latimes.com.

<http://edition2.latimes.com/Olive/ODE/LATimes2/LandingPage/LandingPage.aspx?href=TEFULzlwMTUvMDcvMTY.&pageno=MTg.&entity=QXlwMTgwMg..&view=ZW50aXR5>

Uber Should Be Suspended in California and Fined \$7.3 million, Judge Says

Uber — plagued by problems with regulators, drivers and taxi unions around the world — took a big blow in its home state Wednesday when an administrative judge recommended that the ride-sharing giant be fined \$7.3 million and be suspended from operating in California.

<http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-uber-suspended-20150715-story.html>

On Duty With the CHP: CHEATERS Program Lets Citizens Help Enforce Laws (California)

Have you ever noticed when you go to Yosemite, you have to pay a fee? Sure, we all pay federal taxes and through them I am sure some of those funds go to the National Park system, but there is also a usage fee. Thereby, those who utilize the parks pay a little bit more for park access, but folks who do not utilize the parks don't pay those extra fees. In the same way, if you live and/or work here in California, and you own a car, motorcycle, RV, trailer, boat, etc., you are required to pay registration fees. Read the full article in fresnobee.com.

<http://www.fresnobee.com/news/local/article26869720.html#storylink=cpy>

CALIFORNIA: DMV Tackles Immigrant License Logjam

Undocumented immigrants with roots in Ecuador, Colombia and other countries may now find it easier to apply for driver's licenses under a law that allows undocumented immigrants to drive legally in California. Read the full article in The Press Enterprise.

<http://www.pe.com/articles/dmv-773184-review-ecuador.html>

Limited Offer to Get License Back By Making \$25 Child Support Payment (California)

Parents who have lost their driver's license due to unpaid child support can get their license back after making a \$25 child support payment by Sept. 30, if their case is managed by Tehama Department of Child Support Services. Read the full article on redbluffdailynews.com.

<http://www.redbluffdailynews.com/general-news/20150711/limited-offer-to-get-license-back-by-making-25-child-support-payment>

NM Drivers Facing Delays for New, Renewed Licenses

The state Motor Vehicle Division's long-awaited implementation of a new computer system has meant headaches this summer for New Mexicans seeking to renew their driver's licenses or obtain new licenses. Read the full article in Albuquerque Journal.

<http://www.abqjournal.com/613211/news/nm-drivers-facing-delays-for-new-renewed-licenses.html>

Gas Tax Raised (Washington)

The Washington Legislature adjourned Friday after a marathon triple overtime session where lawmakers raised the gas tax to pay for transportation projects across the state, cut college tuition and put more money toward the state's education system. Read the full article on CBS Seattle.

<http://seattle.cbslocal.com/2015/07/10/gas-tax-raised/>

Other News

Ford Takes on Uber, Lyft With Car Sharing Program

Ford Motor Co. is testing a car-sharing program that helps people rent out autos they purchased from the automaker to prescreened customers as a way to defray the cost of maintaining a vehicle. Read the full article in the Reading Eagle.

<http://readingeagle.com/drivetime/article/ford-takes-on-uber-lyft-with-car-sharing-program>

States With More Restrictive Alcohol Policies Have Lower Rates of Drunk Driving

States with more restrictive alcohol policies and regulations have lower rates of self-reported drunk driving, according to a new study by researchers at the Boston University schools of public health and medicine and the University of Minnesota School of Public Health. Read the full article in news-medical.net.

<http://www.news-medical.net/news/20150716/States-with-more-restrictive-alcohol-policies-have-lower-rates-of-drunk-driving.aspx>

Did You Know

GRADUATION'S DONE. NEXT STEP—LETTING GO

I can imagine that there are probably many parents out there right now who are beginning to feel the walls of their nest slowly crumbling apart as they do their best to help their young-adult prepare for life as a college freshman. Fortunately, there are some tips out there to help college students AND parents successfully navigate through this next chapter in life.

- Set up guidelines for staying in touch
- Give advice sparingly, but always offer a thoughtful response when asked what you think about something.
- Recognize that your child is an almost adult who may still need help taking responsibility for all of her own care.

- Emphasize the importance of knowing when to ask for help and don't hesitate to step in until he or she regains equilibrium and can assume control of a recovery plan.
- Remember that emotions are particularly cranked up during times of transition. Cut each other some slack.
- In general, prepare to be sympathetic, supportive and patient. Recognize that doing nothing is often the best option.

Here are some more resources:

- Parents of College Freshman: Don't Let Go Too Fast (PsychologyToday.com)
<http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/the-couch/201008/parents-college-freshmen-dont-let-go-too-fast>
- Some Advice for Parents of New College Students (Forbes)
<http://www.forbes.com/sites/collegeprose/2013/08/20/some-advice-for-parents-of-new-college-students/>
- Start of College Can be Harder on Parents than Freshmen (USA Today)
http://usatoday30.usatoday.com/news/education/2010-09-05-freshman-coping-parents_N.htm?csp=hf
- Letting Go: Tips for Parents of New College Students (greatschools.org)
<http://www.greatschools.org/college-prep/planning/304-letting-go-new-college-students.gs>