

August 7, 2015 - Regional News

AAMVA News

AAMVA Alert – Wisconsin Joining S2S

Wisconsin will begin using AAMVA's State-to-State Verification Service (S2S) on Monday, August 10th. Tasks related to on-boarding Wisconsin will be conducted during the weekend of August 8th. During this process (Saturday evening to Monday morning), there may be periods during which the Central Site is in inquiry-only mode or is unavailable (over and above the regularly scheduled maintenance window of 2AM to 5AM on Sunday, August 9th). **Please review the associated timeline <http://www.aamva.org/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=7019&libID=6994> detailing the process.**

All other systems (PDPS, NMVTIS, SSOLV, etc.) will be up and running during their usual available hours with the exception of the regularly scheduled weekend maintenance August 9th. States that are scheduled to implement CDLIS 5.3.2 during this weekend will continue to do so.

We apologize for the interruption of service and for any inconvenience that this may cause. AAMVA is taking all steps possible to minimize service interruptions and will be sending alerts notifying States of Central Site availability throughout the process. View the alert <http://www.aamva.org/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=7019&libID=6994> for full details. **If you have any questions regarding the CDLIS downtime that need immediate attention please contact the AAMVA Operations Help Desk at helpdesk@aamva.org.**

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-Information-Exchange/> |
<https://www.aamva.org/profile/ListAllEventRegistrations.aspx>

Region I

Delaware Governor to Sign Bill Targeting Driver's Licenses for Non-Payment of Traffic Fines

Gov. Jack Markell is set to sign legislation targeting the driving privileges of motorists with unpaid traffic fines. Read the full story at DailyJournal.net

<http://www.dailyjournal.net/view/story/a93b7e44473f4ebf8cdabda72f60fcd8/DE--Drivers-Licenses>

MVA Driving Instructor Charged After Offering Woman Passing Grade for Racy Sex Act (Maryland)

A Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) driving instructor is accused of trying to trade a passing grade for a sexual favor. Read the full story at WJLA.com.

<http://wjla.com/news/local/mva-driving-instructor-arrested-for-propositioning-woman-who-failed-road-test>

Five Guilty in Fraudulent CDL Test-Taking Schemes at NY DMVs (New York)

Following a three-day trial in mid-July, a federal jury found Joachim Pierre, Luc Desmangles, Tanael Daniel, Dale Harper, and Beayaeh Kamara guilty in U.S. District Court, Brooklyn, New York, related to cheating on Commercial Driver's License (CDL) tests. Read the full story at TruckingNewsOnLine.com.

<http://www.truckingnewsonline.com/news/five-guilty-in-fraudulent-cdl-test-taking-schemes-at-ny-dmvs/>

County DMV Offices Losing Revenue to State Website, Lack of Communication Hurting Relations (New York)

As Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo touts the growing use of the state Department of Motor Vehicles website, county DMV offices are struggling to keep up. Read the full story at WatertownDailyTimes.com.

<http://www.watertowndailytimes.com/news03/county-dmv-offices-losing-revenue-to-state-website-lack-of-communication-hurting-relations-20150805>

State Releases Newly Redesigned NASCAR License Plate (New York)

"New York is proud to host this world-class event at the Glen, and we're taking this opportunity to offer these new license plates to NASCAR fans as well as showcase the new, more convenient and more user-friendly DMV," Governor Cuomo said. "I urge those attending this race to stop by the DMV booth and take advantage of the services they have to offer." Read the full story at MyTwinTiers.com.

http://www.mytwintiers.com/story/d/story/state-releases-newly-redesigned-nascar-license-plate/13542/fjx9FMWe5EqSmtPT9c_nQ

OMVIC Investigation Results in Curbsiding Conviction (Ontario)

The Ontario Motor Vehicle Industry Council reported recently it has caught another curbsider, or business acting as a motor vehicle dealer without registration. Read the full story at AutoRemarketing.com.

<http://www.autoremarketing.com/arcanada/omvic-investigation-results-curbsiding-conviction>

Pennsylvania Bill Would Place Cameras in Highway Work Zones

Pennsylvania lawmakers feel a need — a need to see you speed. They're exploring a five-year pilot program that would place speed cameras in active interstate work zones, saying it will improve safety as a \$2.3 billion transportation funding law puts more construction crews on the highway at a time when drivers have more technology than ever to distract them. Read the full story at TimesHerald.com.

<http://www.timesherald.com/general-news/20150803/pennsylvania-bill-would-place-cameras-in-highway-work-zones>

DMV Police Crash With Bear and Deer (Vermont)

The Department of Motor Vehicles is issuing a reminder about increases in wildlife on highways during the summer after enforcement officers had accidents with a bear and a deer on Monday. Read the full article in the Burlington Free Press.

<http://www.burlingtonfreepress.com/story/news/local/2015/08/04/dmv-police-crash-bear-deer/31136637/>

Region II

Driver Services Commissioner Welcomes Newest Board Member (Georgia)

Georgia Department of Driver Services (DDS) Commissioner Rob Mikell announced today that Jeff Markey has joined the Agency's Board of Directors. Markey was recently appointed to the Board by Governor Nathan Deal. The DDS Board is the general policy-making body for DDS, approving all rules and regulations endorsed by the Commissioner. Read the full press release.

<http://www.dds.ga.gov/news/newsdetail.aspx?id=384>

Louisiana Plans to Reshuffle the Letters and Numbers on its License Plates

Believe it or not, the state of Louisiana is low on the mix of letters and numbers that go on license plates. Read the full story at TheAdvocate.com.

<http://theadvocate.com/news/13103363-123/louisiana-plans-to-reshuffle-its>

Virginia Revokes License Plates Featuring Confederate Flag

Virginia has revoked specialty license plates featuring a Confederate battle flag after a federal judge dissolved an injunction allowing the image. Read the full story at NYTimes.com.

<http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2015/08/07/us/ap-us-confederate-flag-license-plate.html? r=0>

West Virginia Enters Driver's License Agreement with Taiwan

West Virginia has entered into a reciprocal driver's license agreement with Taiwan. The state's Division of Motor Vehicles announced the agreement Monday. Read the full story at Herald-Dispatch.com.

<http://www.herald-dispatch.com/news/briefs/x807709238/West-Virginia-enters-drivers-license-agreement-with-Taiwan>

Region III

Wheeler Legislation to Clamp Down on Repeat Drunk Drivers Signed Into Law (Illinois)

Today, Gov. Rauner signed legislation offered by State Representative Barbara Wheeler (R-Crystal Lake) to place harsher restrictions on repeat DUI offenders. Read the full story at ChicagoTribune.com.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/lake-county-news-sun/community/chi-ugc-article-wheeler-legislation-to-clamp-down-on-repeat-d-2015-08-06-story.html>

Secretary of State Ruth Johnson Suspends Two Alpena Auto Businesses (Michigan)

Secretary of State Ruth Johnson today announced that the Michigan Department of State has summarily suspended the licenses of two Alpena used vehicle and auto parts dealers as a result of a joint investigation with the Michigan State Police Alpena Post. Read the SOS press release.

<http://www.noodles.com/viewNoodl/29347197/state-of-michigan/secretary-of-state-ruth-johnson-suspends-two-alpena-auto-bus>

Bill Would Give Driver's License to Illegal Immigrants (Michigan)

A lawmaker from Milwaukee wants to give undocumented immigrants in Wisconsin a special driver's license. Read the full story at WHBY.com.

http://www.whby.com/index.php/News/WHBY_News/550495

Minnesota Motorcycle Road Guard Law Effective August 4

Certified motorcycle "road guards" will be able to stop and control traffic for large motorcycle group rides in Minnesota beginning August 4. The Motorcycle Road Guard Law, passed by the legislature and signed into law in 2012, is designed to help motorists and motorcyclists safely share the road during group rides. Read the DPS press release.

<https://dps.mn.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

Region IV

Courts Launch Amnesty Program on Old Traffic Tickets (California)

People who never paid the fines on their old traffic tickets are getting a break: Starting Oct. 1, they can pay them off at half the amount owed, or even 80% off if they are low-income. Read the full story at FresnoBee.com.

<http://www.fresnobee.com/news/local/article30353520.html>

Colorado DMV Computer System to be Replaced with \$93 Million Overhaul

A computer crash that stranded those waiting for driver's licenses and vehicle documents on Friday was the latest in a series of problems that has prompted the state to allocate more than \$93 million to revamp its systems. Read the full story at DenverPost.com.

http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_28566306/colorado-dmv-offices-experiencing-computer-issues-stop-issuing

Other News

Uber May Reduce Drinking-and-Driving Deaths, Study Says

Uber's economy driving service appears to have reduced drinking and-driving deaths in California cities where the service is offered, says a new study that comes as many Canadian municipalities are trying to keep the service from expanding in their cities. Read the full story at TheGlobeandMail.com

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/british-columbia/uber-reduced-drinking-and-driving-deaths-in-california-study-suggests/article25820101/>

Groundbreaking New Study Measures Motorists' Driving Habits

We've always known we love our cars; now we know how much. A groundbreaking study, conducted by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety and the Urban Institute, has found that, on average, the typical American, age 16 or older, drives 29.2 miles per day, or 10,658 miles a year. Read the full story at Armonk.DailyVoice.com.

<http://armonk.dailyvoice.com/news/groundbreaking-new-study-measures-motorists-driving-habits>

Millions of Americans Admit to Drunk Driving, CDC Finds

A new study finds that close to 2 percent of American adults-- about 4.2 million people -- admitted to driving while intoxicated at least once over the prior month. Read the full story at WTSP.com.

<http://www.wtsp.com/story/news/traffic/2015/08/07/millions-of-americans-admit-to-drunk-driving-cdc-finds/31273683/>

Did You Know

SOCIAL MEDIA

Used correctly, business and governments can use social media to engage with their constituents and help develop policy. However, without careful vetting and editing it can also spell disaster. Like it or not, social media is here to stay. Some interesting facts I've found online:

- 14% of Americans use social media as their main source of information about a federal government agency.
- 30% of Americans use social media to ask the government a question or resolve a problem
- The most-frequently used social media marketing channel is Facebook (25%), followed by YouTube (13%) and Twitter (9%). The most-frequently used social media servicing channel is Facebook (74%), followed by Twitter (30%) and YouTube (17%).
- Nearly half (47%) of citizens use social media to get information about laws and regulations; 29 percent use it as a communications channel to ask a question; and 21 percent use social platforms to resolve a problem.
- 70 percent of local governments now engage in some form of social media activity.
- As of February 2015, there were over 1.39 billion monthly active Facebook users worldwide. 890 million users logged on daily.
- In February 2015, every 60 seconds on Facebook, 510 comments are posted, 293,000 statuses are updated and 136,000 photos are uploaded
- In 2014, 55% of tweets sent contained a photo and accounted for 57% of all engagement. 31% of tweets sent contained a link yet were responsible for 26% of @replies, retweets and favorites from brands. 5 billion Vine loops per day according to Twitter.
- Links placed just before the halfway point (in characters) of tweets tended to have higher clickthrough rates than links placed elsewhere.
- Tweets posted around 4 p.m. Eastern time tend to get more retweets than those posted at other times.
- Click-through rate of links in tweets increases as the overall length of those tweets also increases

Intrigued? This information and much, much more can be found online:

22 Social Media Facts and Statistics You Should Know in 2014 (jeffbullas.com)

<http://www.jeffbullas.com/2014/01/17/20-social-media-facts-and-statistics-you-should-know-in-2014/#PTVZtMzl2gCR9MXJ.99>

Internet Marketing (CMOCouncil.org) <https://www.cmocouncil.org/facts-stats-categories.php?view=all&category=internet-marketing>

Measuring government impact in a social media world (OECD Insights)

<http://oecdinsights.org/2015/02/18/measuring-government-impact-in-a-social-media-world/>

J.D. Power Reports: U.S. Federal Government Performs Very Well When Using Social Media To Service Citizens, But Struggles to Market Benefits and Services Effectively (J.D. Power)

<http://www.jdpower.com/press-releases/jd-power-2014-social-media-benchmark-study>

First Responders Experiment with Social Media in Disaster Response (GovTech.com)

<http://www.govtech.com/social/First-Responders-Experiment-with-Social-Media-in-Disaster-Response.html>

United Nations e-Government Survey (U.N.)

http://unpan3.un.org/egovkb/Portals/egovkb/Documents/un/2014-Survey/E-Gov_Complete_Survey-2014.pdf

A National Survey of Social Media Use in State Government -2010 (NASCIO)

<http://www.nascio.org/publications/documents/NASCIO-SocialMedia.pdf>

Governments Struggling to Get Social Media Right (governing.com)

<http://www.governing.com/topics/mgmt/gov-government-social-media.html>

IACP 2014 Social Media Survey (IACP Center for Social Media)

<http://www.iacpsocialmedia.org/Resources/Publications/2014SurveyResults.aspx>

The Ultimate List of Marketing Statistics (Hubspot.com) <http://www.hubspot.com/marketing-statistics#topic-social>