

# September 4, 2015 - Regional News

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## AAMVA News

### Watch AAMVA's 2015 Year In Review



<https://youtu.be/SQrAz9AmhK4>

### Relive AAMVA's 2015 Annual International Conference

Hopefully those of you who were able to make it out to Des Moines to participate in AAMVA's 2015 Annual International Conference have made it home safely. With bags unpacked, and luggage stowed away until the next trip, you may catch yourselves reminiscing on some of the things you learned, people you met, and good times you had at #AICIOWA. We know how it is, and to help you relive the experience, we offer you presentations, pictures and a video to boot! Just visit the Downloads Center at <http://www.aamva.org/2015-AIC-Downloads/>. A special thank you to our sponsors and staff who helped to make the event possible. We hope to see everybody at the next Annual International Conference in Williamsburg, Virginia!

### Register for the 2015 Region III Information Exchange

- 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

**Study Says Montgomery Speed Camera Program is Model for the Nation (Maryland)**

With a politically fractured Congress and a polarized nation, the idea at first blush has universal appeal: save almost 10,000 American lives each year and virtually end the need to import foreign oil. Sounds like a classic win-win, but the idea is such a loser that nobody talks about it. Read the full story at WashingtonPost.com.

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/trafficandcommuting/study-says-montgomery-speed-camera-program-is-model-for-the-nation/2015/08/31/5a47bcc0-4f82-11e5-933e-7d06c647a395\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/trafficandcommuting/study-says-montgomery-speed-camera-program-is-model-for-the-nation/2015/08/31/5a47bcc0-4f82-11e5-933e-7d06c647a395_story.html)

### **County DMV Swamped with Out-of-State Title Requests (Massachusetts / Nebraska)**

A Massachusetts car dealer has begun using the Lancaster County Department of Motor Vehicles as its primary car titling agency, creating a significant burden on county DMV workers. Don Arp, motor vehicle manager for the Lancaster County Treasurer's office, said LaBelle Chevrolet of Bridgewater, Massachusetts, has requested and received nearly 3,000 car titles from the Lancaster County DMV since February. He said the Nebraska DMV charges just \$10 per title, one of the lowest rates in the country, which likely encouraged LaBelle to get its vehicles titled here. By comparison, Massachusetts charges \$75 to title a vehicle. Read the full story at JournalStar.com.

[http://journalstar.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/county-dmv-swamped-with-out-of-state-title-requests/article\\_67f5a060-97ba-566e-b911-2176c4a9ccaf.html](http://journalstar.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/county-dmv-swamped-with-out-of-state-title-requests/article_67f5a060-97ba-566e-b911-2176c4a9ccaf.html)

### **New York Veterans to Get Rebate on Special Driver's Licenses**

Veterans who had paid a \$12.50 fee to have their status inscribed on driver's licenses or other identification cards will be getting a refund, thanks to a state law passed last spring which has not yet taken effect. Read the full story at TimesUnion.com.

<http://www.timesunion.com/local/article/New-York-veterans-to-get-rebate-on-special-6472024.php>

## **Region II**

### **New System Lets You Sign in At DMV, Get a Text When Your Number is Near (Florida)**

Channel 9's Steve Barrett is looking into a new system that will help people avoid long lines at the DMV by using a new program that syncs up with their smartphones. Read the full story at WFTV.com.

<http://www.wftv.com/news/news/local/new-system-lets-you-sign-dmv-get-text-when-your-nu/nnXHP/>

### **State Discussing New Ways to Deliver Driver's Licenses (Florida)**

Instead of walking into the Tax Collector's office, you may be waiting in the mail to get your driver's license soon. Florida is considering changes to the way many residents receive their license. The state's current vendor, which prints and provides licenses from the local Tax Collector's office, has a contract that expires in 2017. Read the full story at WCTV.TV.

<http://www.wctv.tv/home/headlines/State-Discussing-New-Ways-to-Deliver-Drivers-Licenses-324224711.html?ref=711>

### **The Florida Highway Patrol Announces New Deputy Director**

Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) Director, Colonel Gene Spaulding, announced that Major Michael Thomas will be the new deputy director of the Patrol effective today, September 4, 2015. As Troop Commander of Troop C (Tampa area), Major Thomas acquired a great deal of experience and an excellent working knowledge of FHP operations in the field. As he takes on his new position within the Patrol, Lt. Colonel Thomas will bring a fresh perspective to help lead FHP operations throughout the sunshine state. Read the DHSMV press release.

<http://www.flhsmv.gov/2015/09/04/the-florida-highway-patrol-announces-new-deputy-director/>

### **Driver Services Commissioner Announces Milestone for Georgia Motorcycle Safety Program**

Department of Driver Services (DDS) Commissioner Rob Mikell announced an important milestone for a program that streamlines the licensing process for troops, veterans and dependents with previous motorcycle safety training. Over the past year, 1,000 military service personnel (and/or their dependents) have obtained a Georgia motorcycle endorsement to their license -- without duplicating the training and testing they completed while serving our country. Read the DDS press release.

<http://www.dds.ga.gov/news/newsdetail.aspx?id=388>

### **Immigrants with Disputed Status Sue for Georgia Driver's Licenses**

Immigrants with disputed residency status are suing Georgia's state government for driver's licenses. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reports the plaintiffs filed a federal lawsuit Monday against Georgia's Department of Driver Services. The Department of Driver Services declined to comment. Read the full story at News4Jax.com.

<http://www.news4jax.com/news/georgia-news/immigrants-with-disputed-status-sue-for-georgia-drivers-licenses/35058656>

### **New Drivers Ed Requirement Addresses Distracted Driving (Texas)**

New rules have first-time drivers learning more about the dangers of distracted driving. Starting September 1, a two-hour distracted driving course is required for teenagers applying for a driver's license. Read the full story at KeyETV.com.

<http://www.keyetv.com/news/features/top-stories/stories/New-Driver-s-Ed-Requirement-Addresses-Distracted-Driving-192303.shtml>

### **Austin First City Outside California to Test Google's Fully Self-Driving Cars (Texas)**

Austin will be the first city outside of Google's hometown of Mountain View, Calif., to test the company's first fully self-driving cars, the company announced Saturday. Read the full story at DallasNews.com.

<http://www.dallasnews.com/news/local-news/20150829-austin-first-city-outside-california-to-test-googles-fully-self-driving-cars.ece>

### **New Drunk Driving Law Takes Effect in Texas**

A new law aimed at reducing repeat drunk driving offenses and saving lives on Texas roadways officially went into effect Tuesday, Sept. 1, just ahead of one of the busiest traffic weekends of the year. Read the full story at YourHoustonNews.com.

[http://www.yourhoustonnews.com/humble/news/new-drunk-driving-law-takes-effect-in-texas/article\\_9daf9abc-98d5-511a-a5a1-2f11ea13338f.html](http://www.yourhoustonnews.com/humble/news/new-drunk-driving-law-takes-effect-in-texas/article_9daf9abc-98d5-511a-a5a1-2f11ea13338f.html)

### **Fairfax Judge Lets ACLU License-Plate Reader Suit Go Forward (Virginia)**

A judge has declined to throw out a lawsuit challenging the Fairfax County Police Department's practice of storing data collected through the use of license-plate readers. Read the full story at Washington.CBSLocal.com.

<http://washington.cbslocal.com/2015/08/28/fairfax-judge-lets-aclu-license-plate-reader-suit-go-forward/>

## **Region III**

### **State Eyes Banning Videos of Driver's Tests (Illinois)**

The Illinois secretary of state's office is poised to add one more reason to give beginning motorists a failing grade on their road tests. If being a bad driver isn't reason enough, the office wants to prohibit the use of recording devices during a road test. Read the full story at Pantagraph.com.

[http://www.pantagraph.com/news/state-and-regional/illinois/government-and-politics/state-eyes-banning-videos-of-driver-s-tests/article\\_78772a4e-8c66-538d-810c-7355f5b6bd7b.html](http://www.pantagraph.com/news/state-and-regional/illinois/government-and-politics/state-eyes-banning-videos-of-driver-s-tests/article_78772a4e-8c66-538d-810c-7355f5b6bd7b.html)

### **Iowa DOT Workers Begin Testing Digital Driver's License App**

Upwards of 100 workers from the Iowa Department of Transportation have become among the first in the nation to test out digital driver's licenses. Read the full story at EquipmentWorld.com.

<http://www.equipmentworld.com/iowa-dot-workers-begin-testing-digital-drivers-license-app/>

### **Feedback Sought on Proposed All-In-One ID Card for Manitobans**

Manitobans are invited to share their views on a proposed all-in-one Personal Identification Card (PIC) that would combine a person's driver's licence, photo ID, health and travel card. Read the full story at CBC.CA.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/feedback-sought-on-proposed-all-in-one-id-card-for-manitobans-1.3214377>

#### **Driver License Data of 18 Individuals Accessed (Minnesota)**

The Department of Public Safety (DPS) and MN.IT Services, the State's IT organization, have discovered and stopped unauthorized viewing of Minnesota drivers license records. Read the DPS press release.

<https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/ooc/news-releases/Pages/drivers-license-data-of-18-individuals-ac.aspx>

#### **Missouri Department of Revenue Takes Action to Implement Municipal Court Reform**

The Missouri Department of Revenue today filed an emergency rule to direct local governments in the process of implementing municipal court reforms required by Senate Bill No. 5. The emergency rule filed today directs local governments regarding the process of remitting excess revenue they receive from fines, bond forfeitures and court costs associated with minor traffic violations. The emergency rule will go into effect Sept. 11. Read the DOR press release.

<http://dor.mo.gov/news/2015/090115>

#### **County DMV Swamped with Out-of-State Title Requests (Massachusetts / Nebraska)**

A Massachusetts car dealer has begun using the Lancaster County Department of Motor Vehicles as its primary car titling agency, creating a significant burden on county DMV workers. Don Arp, motor vehicle manager for the Lancaster County Treasurer's office, said LaBelle Chevrolet of Bridgewater, Massachusetts, has requested and received nearly 3,000 car titles from the Lancaster County DMV since February. He said the Nebraska DMV charges just \$10 per title, one of the lowest rates in the country, which likely encouraged LaBelle to get its vehicles titled here. By comparison, Massachusetts charges \$75 to title a vehicle. Read the full story at JournalStar.com.

[http://journalstar.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/county-dmv-swamped-with-out-of-state-title-requests/article\\_67f5a060-97ba-566e-b911-2176c4a9ccaf.html](http://journalstar.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/county-dmv-swamped-with-out-of-state-title-requests/article_67f5a060-97ba-566e-b911-2176c4a9ccaf.html)

#### **Proposed Fee May Raise Costs At DMV And Fix Roads (Nebraska)**

Drivers may soon decide whether to add a new fee at the DMV. Two city council members proposed a vehicle registration fee. That money would pay for resurfacing and repairs of Omaha roads. Read the full story at ScrippsMedia.com.

<http://www.scrippsmedia.com/kmtv/news/Proposed-Fee-May-Raise-Costs-At-DMV-And-Fix-Roads-324213601.html>

## **Ohio Collaborative Community Police Advisory Board Finalizes First of Its Kind Standards for Ohio Law Enforcement Agencies**

An advisory board established by Ohio Governor John R. Kasich to implement ways to improve community and police relations today established new state standards – for the first time in Ohio history – on proper use of force, including deadly force, and the recruiting, hiring and screening of potential law enforcement officer candidates. The new standards will now be distributed to law enforcement agencies across the state by the Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS). Read the DPS press release.

<http://publicsafety.ohio.gov/links/MR2015/Collab-Press-Release-082815.pdf>

## **WisDOT Begins Issuing New License Plate Featuring Stately Eagle Photo Awareness (Wisconsin)**

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is now issuing a new Endangered Resources license plate that features a photo rendition of an American Bald Eagle. The eagle plate is the third in the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Endangered Resources series. Read the DOT press release.

<http://wisconsin.gov/Pages/about-wisdot/newsroom/news-rel/537-co-dmv.aspx>

## **Region IV**

### **British Columbia's Auto Insurer Eyes Rate Increase, Cites Cost of Fraud**

The Insurance Corporation of British Columbia says fraudulent claims have played a role in its need for a 6.7-per-cent increase in basic rates, a trend the corporation says is in keeping with what is happening nationwide. Read the full story at TheGlobeandMail.com.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/british-columbia/bcs-auto-insurer-eyes-rate-increase-cites-cost-of-fraud/article26189566/>

### **California To Soon Offer Amnesty For Certain Traffic Tickets**

Drivers in California struggling to pay off traffic fines are going to get a break. An amnesty program will give them a chance to settle for a fraction of what they owe. The program lasts until March 31, 2017. Read the full story at SanFrancisco.CBSLocal.com.

<http://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2015/09/01/california-to-soon-offer-amnesty-for-certain-traffic-tickets/>

### **California Lawmakers Send Hit-And-Run Alert System Bill To Governor, Again**

California state lawmakers are once again sending Gov. Jerry Brown a bill to establish an alert system for catching hit-and-run drivers. Read the full story at SacramentoCBSLocal.com.

<http://sacramento.cbslocal.com/2015/08/31/california-lawmakers-send-hit-and-run-alert-system-bill-to-governor-again/>

### **Jerry Brown Proposes \$65 Driver's Fee, Higher Gas Taxes (California)**

California drivers would pay \$65 a year in a new highway user fee plus higher taxes at the gas pump under a \$3.6 billion plan Gov. Jerry Brown is pitching to help fix the state's roads, bridges and highways. Read the full story at SFGate.com.

<http://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/California-drivers-could-face-a-new-65-highway-6483821.php>

### **eTagsDirect.com Expanding to Provide Services in California**

eTagsDirect.com launched as an online registration renewal service for Florida residents last year. In recent months, they have added the option to order or renew a Florida specialty plate but they have set their sights farther out from the Sunshine State. The company is now pleased to announce that it is offering registration renewal services in California. Read the full story at Benzinga.com.

<http://www.benzinga.com/pressreleases/15/09/p5814285/etagsdirect-com-expanding-to-provide-services-in-california>

### **State Has Issued Nearly 450K REAL IDs, Note Long Wait Times (Wyoming)**

The state issued more than 400,000 identity cards in the first four months of 2015 that conform to the standards Congress created to help thwart terrorism at airports after Sept. 11, a Wyoming Department of Transportation official said recently. Read the full story at Trib.com.

[http://trib.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/state-has-issued-nearly-k-real-ids-note-long-wait/article\\_8283e627-a1dd-522f-99d3-adea434f4f04.html](http://trib.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/state-has-issued-nearly-k-real-ids-note-long-wait/article_8283e627-a1dd-522f-99d3-adea434f4f04.html)

## **Other News**

### **Three Troopers' Names Added to Law Enforcement Memorial**

AAMVA honors law enforcement officers of member jurisdictions who make the ultimate sacrifice while performing their duties. In a span of only 5 days, three Troopers made that sacrifice. Senior Trooper Steven Vincent served with the Louisiana State Police for 24 years. Trooper Vincent was shot on Sunday, August 23rd, while performing a traffic stop on a suspected intoxicated driver. He died the next day (August 24th), leaving behind a wife and young son. Missouri State Highway Patrol Trooper James Bava was killed in a single vehicle crash on Friday, August 28th. He had served with the Missouri State Highway Patrol for 2 years. Also on Friday 28th, Michigan State Police Trooper Chad H. Wolf was killed when his motorcycle was struck by a vehicle. He leaves behind his wife and four children. Our deepest respect and sympathy goes out to the families and agencies of those fallen officers. Visit AAMVA's Law Enforcement Memorial on AAMVA's Web site for more information.

<http://www.aamva.org/LE-Memorial-2015/>

## Uber Loses Round in Legal Battle with Drivers

A federal judge Tuesday dealt a blow to Uber's efforts to neutralize a major legal challenge to its business model, finding that a lawsuit against the growing ride-booking company can proceed as a class action on behalf of most California drivers who have worked for the Bay Area outfit since 2009. Read the full story at MercuryNews.com.

[http://www.mercurynews.com/crime-courts/ci\\_28739771/uber-loses-round-legal-battle-drivers?source=rss](http://www.mercurynews.com/crime-courts/ci_28739771/uber-loses-round-legal-battle-drivers?source=rss)

## U.S. Lowers Estimate of Takata Air Bags Needing Repairs

Federal regulators have lowered their estimate of potentially defective Takata Corp. air bags on U.S. roads. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says approximately 23.4 million driver and passenger air bag inflators on 19.2 million vehicles are being recalled and need to be replaced. That's lower than its initial estimate of 34 million inflators. Read the full story at Mcall.com.

<http://www.mcall.com/news/ct-takata-air-bag-recall-numbers-lower-20150901-story.html>

## Did You Know

### ON TWITTER

**@AAMVAConnection** has been watching the twitter feed and decided to highlight some of the tweets here. Links are provided within most of the tweets, and we have also provided a link to each tweet as well. Note that **you do not have to have an account or sign in to Twitter** to view the message posts, and any comments, etc. associated with the post.

**Automotive Fleet @AutomotiveFleet** | View the Tweet

<https://twitter.com/AutomotiveFleet/status/639878483582148608>

Nissan Recalls Armada SUVs for Seat Belts <http://www.automotive-fleet.com/channel/safety-accident-management/news/story/2015/09/nissan-recalls-armada-suvs-for-seat-belts.aspx> ... #Auto #Fleet

**State Farm @StateFarm** | View the Tweet

<https://twitter.com/StateFarm/status/639872936615243776>

Like driving safe? Like a private concert at your high school? Stay tuned for more info & #Drive2N2!!

**IBTTA @IBTTA** | View the Tweet

<https://twitter.com/IBTTA/status/639864765976809472> |

Toyota spends \$50 million to accelerate self-driving car program <http://buff.ly/1JTY3gg> #ITS #transportation

**IIHS @IIHS\_autosafety** | View the Tweet

[https://twitter.com/IIHS\\_autosafety/status/639863805246353408](https://twitter.com/IIHS_autosafety/status/639863805246353408)

18-year-old truck drivers. What could go wrong? <http://ht.ly/RNWb9> via @USATODAY



**WV GHSP @WVhighwaysafety** | View the Tweet

<https://twitter.com/WVhighwaysafety/status/639862598360526848>

WV GHSP retweeted Drop It And Drive

Hearing the stats doesn't always have an effect, but THIS really puts the numbers in perspective.

#distracteddriving

**Traffic Safety Cln @TrafficSafetyCn** | View the Tweet

<https://twitter.com/TrafficSafetyCn/status/639860747972014081>

VIDEO: #Brake4Buses Father shares his story of witnessing a truck almost hitting his daughter at her bus stop. WATCH: <http://ow.ly/RKFhD>

**Transport. 4 America @T4America** | View the Tweet

<https://twitter.com/T4America/status/639860002614718464>

Study: The desire to use technology while commuting may be drawing people towards transit

<http://fortune.com/2015/09/03/metra-commuter-technology/> ...

**GHSA @GHSAHQ** | View the Tweet

<https://twitter.com/GHSAHQ/status/639802871228137472>

You're a great driver. Your spouse? Not so much <http://www.autoblog.com/2015/09/03/married-good-drivers-survey/> ... via @therealautoblog @PeterCBigelow

**Impact Teen Drivers** | View the Tweet

<https://twitter.com/impactdrivers/status/639854403189612544>

The Auto Club is hosting a Teen Driving Safety Fair on October 10th in the city of Mission Viejo targeting teens... <http://fb.me/47tEbvqLM>

**NHTSA @NHTSAgov** | View the Tweet

<https://twitter.com/NHTSAgov/status/639800795102322691>

Children, grandchildren—there are so many reasons to use #therightseat. What's your reason for staying safe? <http://fb.me/2CNwkFJHw>

**AARP Maryland @AARPMd** | View the Tweet

<https://twitter.com/AARPMd/status/637988666208600065>

How to have "the talk" about safe driving, featuring Maryland @AARPdsp Coordinator, Ted Peterkin:

<http://bit.ly/1Q1I22g>