

October 23, 2015 - Regional News

AAMVA News

Get Involved With AAMVA Committees and Working Groups

AAMVA is looking for a PACE discipline jurisdiction member to join the Driver Standing Committee, and eight DMV investigators and four state police/highway patrol officers to fill positions in a new working group. Complete details are available in the AAMVA Committees and Working Groups page (<http://www.aamva.org/committees-and-working-groups/>) on the Committee Opportunities tab (<http://www.aamva.org/committees-and-working-groups/#CommitteeOpportunities>), and the Working Group Opportunities tab (<http://www.aamva.org/committees-and-working-groups/#CommitteeOpportunities>).

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

Maryland Gets Okay to Recall Confederate Flag License Plates; Virginia's Recall Meets Defiance

Maryland got the okay from a judge to recall Confederate flag special license plates, joining Virginia -- where a similar recall effort has encountered near universal defiance from owners of the tags to return them. Read the full story at FoxNews.com.

<http://www.foxnews.com/us/2015/10/18/maryland-gets-okay-to-recall-confederate-flag-license-plates-virginia-recall/>

Cabbies Can Now Go To Jail for Driving Without a License (New York)

Now that the Taxi and Limousine Commission no longer has the power to seize vehicles on the spot, it is throwing the book at for-hire drivers who violate the law. Read the full story at NYPost.com.

<http://nypost.com/2015/10/22/cabbies-can-now-go-to-jail-for-driving-without-a-license/>

Uber To Challenge New York Law

On the state Capitol's 118-year-old Million Dollar Staircase, Uber Technologies Inc. and state lawmakers painted a picture of a region slipping behind in the sharing economy because New York state law does not permit transportation network companies. Read the full story at GovTech.com.

<http://www.govtech.com/state/Uber-To-Challenge-New-York-Law.html>

House OKs Bill to Let Bikers Go When Red Light Sensors Fail (Pennsylvania)

Motorcyclists and others stuck at red lights when sensors haven't been triggered may soon get the legal ability to continue on their way under a bill approved by the Pennsylvania House. Read the full story at Mcall.com.

<http://www.mcall.com/news/nationworld/pennsylvania/mc-pa-motorcycles-red-lights-bill-20151020-story.html#navtype=outfit>

Region II

Governor Responds to Racism Accusations Over DMV Closings (Alabama)

The accusations of racial bias concerning the closing of 31 Alabama DMV offices keep coming, and the Governor keeps firing back. Several democrats and civil rights activists say the state is making it more difficult for African-Americans to vote. Read the full story at WAFF.com.

<http://www.waff.com/story/30300753/governor-responds-to-racism-accusations-over-dmv-closings>

Georgia Twins Denied Driver's Permit Because DMV Can't Tell Them Apart

Aicia and Alicen Kennedy are proof that two heads are not always better than one, at least according to the Department of Motor Vehicles. Read the full story at NBC4i.com.

<http://nbc4i.com/2015/10/23/georgia-twins-denied-drivers-permit-because-dmv-cant-tell-them-apar/>

Oklahoma Granted Real ID Extension

Oklahoma lawmakers will have more time to work out issues regarding Oklahoma IDs, as a one-year extension has been granted to allow the state to meet requirements for the Real ID Act. Read the full story at Examiner-Enterprise.com.

<http://examiner-enterprise.com/news/local-news/oklahoma-granted-real-id-extension>

Governor McAuliffe Announces that More Vital Records Will be Available at the DMV (Virginia)

Governor Terry McAuliffe today announced that Virginia death, marriage and divorce certificates are now available at all DMV customer service centers and DMV 2 Go mobile customer service centers. Read the full story at Wavy.com.

<http://wavy.com/2015/10/21/gov-mcauliffe-announces-that-more-vital-records-will-be-available-the-dmv/>

Virginia Teen Driving Fatalities Up 20 Percent in 2015

24 teen drivers between the ages of 15 and 19, have died so far this year in Virginia. That's compared to 20 in the same time period in 2014, according to the latest statistics from the Department of Motor Vehicles. Read the full story at WRIC.com.

<http://wric.com/2015/10/20/virginia-teen-driving-fatalities-up-20-percent-in-2015/>

Region III

Jesse White Announces Teen Driving Deaths Down Nearly 60 Percent (Illinois)

Secretary of State Jesse White kicked off National Teen Driver Safety Week by announcing that teen driving deaths are down by nearly 60 percent in Illinois, a new low since Illinois' nationally recognized Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) program took effect in 2008. Read the SOS press release.

<http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/news/2015/october/151020d2.pdf>

Davison Man Charged with Forging Police Officer's Signature on Vehicle Safety Inspections (Michigan)

A Genesee County auto dealer accused of forging a police officer's signature on vehicle inspection documents now faces 14 felony charges, Secretary of State Ruth Johnson announced today. Read the SOS press release.

http://michigan.gov/sos/0,4670,7-127-1640_61055-365493--,00.html

Region IV

California DMV Worker Indicted in ID Theft Probe

A clerk at the California Department of Motor Vehicles and five other people have been indicted on charges involving the creation of new identities with Puerto Rican documents that were then used to get driver's licenses, authorities said Wednesday. Read the full story at SacBee.com.

<http://www.sacbee.com/news/state/california/article40647975.html>

California Department Of Motor Vehicles Releases September Assembly Bill 60 Statistics

The California Department of Motor Vehicles released Assembly Bill 60 statistics Tuesday for the month of September, as well as totals since the program was implemented on Jan. 2, 2015. Read the DMV press release.

http://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv/detail/pubs/newsrel/newsrel15/2015_54

Manitoba Will Continue its Winter Tire Low-Interest Financing Program, Winter Tire Benefits Well-Documented: MPI

Characterizing Manitoba's winter tire low-interest financing program as a success, Gord Mackintosh, minister responsible for Manitoba Public Insurance (MPI), announced Monday the program will again be offered to vehicle owners. Read the full story at CanadianUnderwriter.ca.

<http://www.canadianunderwriter.ca/news/manitoba-will-continue-its-winter-tire-low-interest-financing-program-winter-tire-benefits-well/1003855423/?&er=NA>

New Law Mandates Motorcycle Safety Course (Northern Marianas Island)

GOVERNOR Eloy S. Inos has signed House Bill 19-14, now Public Law 19-12, which requires motorcycle vendors to provide U.S. Department of Transportation-certified helmets to motorcycle/scooter/moped operators as well as instruction courses. Read the full story at MVariety.com.

<http://www.mvariety.com/cnmi/cnmi-news/local/80931-new-law-mandates-motorcycle-safety-course>

Drunken Driving Deaths Nearly Doubled in Utah

The number of people who have died as a result of drunken driving in Utah nearly doubled last year. A new report from the Utah Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice shows that alcohol-related traffic deaths increased from 23 to 45, which is the highest total in the past decade. The report was presented to the state Legislature Wednesday. Read the full story at KUTV.com.

<http://kutv.com/news/local/utah-drunk-driving-deaths-nearly-double-since-2013>

Washington State Patrol Establishes Veteran Preference Website

The Washington State Patrol (WSP) has established a link to a website to identify individuals who applied to be a trooper and believe they were not given their veteran's preference points on prior applicant tests. Washington State law requires state agencies to give veterans' preference points to honorably discharged veterans during the hiring process. Read the WSP press release.

<http://www.wsp.wa.gov/>

Other News

Can a New Ridesharing Upstart Threaten Uber?

Less than two years after Uber disrupted Houston's taxi market -- with most of that time spent largely competition-free -- the company now finds itself the established player facing upstart competition. Get Me, a Dallas-based company that launched in North Texas in August and Austin earlier this month, is scheduled to start serving Houston on Thursday. Read the full story at GovTech.com.

<http://www.govtech.com/applications/Can-a-New-Ridesharing-Upstart-Threaten-Uber.html>

Toyota to Recall 6.5 Million Cars to Fix Power Window Switch

Toyota Motor Corp said on Wednesday it would recall 6.5 million vehicles globally to fix a defect in the power window switch in models including the Yaris/Vitz subcompact, Corolla, Camry and others. Read the full story at NYDailyNews.com.

<http://www.nydailynews.com/autos/toyota/toyota-recall-6-5-million-cars-fix-power-window-switch-article-1.2405356>

NHTSA Upgrades Probe into 253,000 F-150 Trucks

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is upgrading an investigation into nearly 253,000 Ford F-150s because of braking problems that are linked to at least seven crashes and one injury. Read the full story at DetroitNews.com.

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/ford/2015/10/20/nhtsa-upgrades-probe-trucks/74258460/>

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, images associated with the post, and the reach of the message (retweets, favorited, etc.).

OTHER TWITTER HIGHLIGHTS

- **VermontDMV @VTDMV | View the Tweet**
<https://twitter.com/VTDMV/status/657630279293607940>
- 12 of the Most Embarrassing Cars Ever Built by Excellent Automakers <http://ow.ly/TIkN3>
- **GHSA @GHSAHQ | View Tweet**
<https://twitter.com/GHSAHQ/status/657179632471437312>
More teens smoking pot <http://bit.ly/10GeEHV> means more drugged driving resources needed
<http://www.ghsa.org/html/publications/2015drugged.html> ... @HealthDayEditor
- **CT DMV Retweeted: Justin @j_goic | View the Tweet**
https://twitter.com/j_goic/status/657591982156554240
Shout out to @aaa got my license renewed in 3 minutes as opposed to the hours I usually waste at @CTDMV #AAAorBust
- **OKDOT @OKDOT | View the Tweet**
<https://twitter.com/OKDOT/status/657603265065033728>

U Drive. U Text. U Pay. Texting while driving is illegal in Oklahoma effective Nov 1, 2015
#justdriveOK

- **NHTSA @NHTSAgov | View the Tweet**

<https://twitter.com/NHTSAgov/status/657602794547875840>

Want the latest on the recalls you're hearing about everywhere you go? Look no further—our Recalls Spotlight has... <http://fb.me/7E9zTI1YZ>

- **CQ Now @CQnow | View the Tweet**

<https://twitter.com/CQnow/status/657599652112433153>

House Sends Reconciliation Package to Senate \$ <http://cqnow.co/1OMydOM> @MelissaAttias

- **CQ Now @CQnow | View the Tweet**

<https://twitter.com/CQnow/status/657597128282275840>

#podcast from @abettel and @rwalerius1: Congress hasn't figured out how to pay for surface transportation programs <http://cqnow.co/1MeGquO>

- **CTP @ProductiveTrans | View the Tweet**

<https://twitter.com/ProductiveTrans/status/656206275353513984>

Do more productive trucks enhance highway safety? Yes, and Congress should learn from Maine's experience.

- **KansasDOT @DriveSafeKansas | View the Tweet**

<https://twitter.com/DriveSafeKansas/status/657596605059629056>

Hands-free devices can also cause drivers to be distracted. Check out this new study.

http://www.npr.org/sections/alltechconsidered/2015/10/22/450871544/even-after-hanging-up-hands-free-isnt-risk-free-for-distracted-drivers?utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=npr&utm_term=nprnews&utm_content=2048 ...

- **Don't Tweet & Drive @DontTwive | View the Tweet**

<https://twitter.com/DontTwive/status/657595436442755072>

What steps will you take to Focus on the road today? #TweetSafe

- **GHSA @GHSAHQ | View the Tweet**

<https://twitter.com/GHSAHQ/status/656083344950730752>

NEW REPORT: Under Their Influence: The New Teen Safe Driving Champions

<http://www.ghsa.org/html/publications/teens/2015teens.html> ...

- **OHBureauMotorVehicle @Ohio_BMV | View the Tweet**

<https://twitter.com/OSHP/status/657593773153755136>

In 2013, almost one out of every 5 teen drivers involved in fatal crashes had been drinking.
#NoAlcohol #5toDrive

- **TeensInTheDriverSeat @TeensDriverSeat | View the Tweet**
<https://twitter.com/TeensDriverSeat/status/657593666995920897>
Being awake for 18 hrs is like having a BAC level of .08%, which is considered legally drunk. Get some rest then drive. #TeenDriverSafety
- **MN State Patrol @MnDPS_MSP | View the Tweet**
https://twitter.com/MnDPS_MSP/status/657592521154019329
RT @MnDPS_OTs: Red Wing teen falls asleep behind the wheel, lives to tell about it thanks to her seat belt. <http://ow.ly/TGYSx>
- **CBC Nova Scotia @CBCNS | View the Tweet**
<https://twitter.com/CBCNS/status/657573511297433600>
How long did it take you to get to work today? Bridge users vent frustration
<http://bit.ly/1Gvuh25>
- **TeensInTheDriverSeat @TeensDriverSeat | View the tweet**
<https://twitter.com/TeensDriverSeat/status/657569733542326273>
55% of drowsy driving crashes are caused by drivers less than 25 years old. Get your rest
#drowsydriving #NTDSW
- **MDTA @TheMDTA Oct 19 | View the Tweet**
<https://twitter.com/TheMDTA/status/656070446413193216>
Reminder: WAIVER PROGRAM now thru Nov. 16. Pay tolls w/o civil penalties. Info w/FAQs
<http://go.usa.gov/3JYCG>
- **KansasDOT @DriveSafeKansas | View the Tweet**
<https://twitter.com/DriveSafeKansas/status/657564660200112128>
It's National #TeenDriverSafetyWeek. Take the time: talk to them about the #5toDrive rules of the road.
- **Safe Roads Alliance @Safe_Roads | View the Tweet**
https://twitter.com/Safe_Roads/status/657564648233922560
Why self driving cars must be programs to kill.
<http://www.technologyreview.com/view/542626/why-self-driving-cars-must-be-programmed-to-kill/> ... @Selfdrivingcars @Driverlessdaily @AutonomousCaRR @mrichtel
- **Safe Roads Alliance @Safe_Roads | View the Tweet**
https://twitter.com/Safe_Roads/status/657562991852920832

Do you know why Traffic Reporters insist on calling them “accidents”? Read this.
<http://droptheaword.blogspot.com/2015/10/what-traffic-reporters-say-about-word.html> ...
#crashnotaccident

- **MSP Metro Detroit @mspmetrodet | View the Tweet**
<https://twitter.com/mspmetrodet/status/657559839376330752>
Give a lane: Drivers must move over a lane or slow down for MDOT courtesy vans or tow trucks working on the freeway! It's the law!
- **Roll Call @rollcall | View the Tweet**
<https://twitter.com/rollcall/status/657562142254612480> Congress Should Pressure States, Not DHS, on REAL ID | Commentary <http://roll.cl/1SOFRna>
- **IBTTA @IBTTA | View the Tweet**
<https://twitter.com/IBTTA/status/657561187580821504>
New, updated and proposed toll roads in three states <http://buff.ly/1NWjhgY> #tollroads
#transportation
- **Georgia DOT @GADeptofTrans | View the Tweet**
<https://twitter.com/CBCNS/status/657560894369468416>
Add your name to the list of people who pledge to DriveAlert ArriveAlive --- <http://ow.ly/TKYX0>
#ArriveAliveGA