

November 20, 2015 - Regional News

AAMVA News

AAMVA Awards Program Call For Entries

The AAMVA Awards Program <http://www.aamva.org/AAMVA-Awards/> recognizes individuals, teams, and organizations in the motor vehicle and law enforcement community who have committed their time and resources to improving day-to-day business, reaching out to the community, and saving lives. Visit the AAMVA Awards Program online <http://www.aamva.org/AAMVA-Awards/> to learn more about the awards and to download the 2016 Submission and Nomination Packet <http://www.aamva.org/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=7457&libID=7432> and Entry Form <http://www.aamva.org/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=7458&libID=7433>.



AAMVA Leadership Academy Applications Now Being Accepted

AAMVA is now accepting applications for the 2016 AAMVA Leadership Academy. The Leadership Academy (set to take place May 9-12, 2016) is an exciting opportunity for jurisdiction employees who have demonstrated leadership potential within the AAMVA community. **Applications are due by December 14, 2015.** Visit the Leadership Academy Web site for complete details. <http://www.aamva.org/2016-AAMVA-Leadership-Academy/>

Region I

Massachusetts Woman Wins Fight to Wear Colander in Driver's License by Citing 'Pastafarian' Religion

Some states ban smiling in driver's license photos, but wearing a colander on one's head is apparently allowed. A Massachusetts woman this week won the right to wear a colander on her head in her driver's license photo after citing religious reasons. Lindsay Miller identifies as a "Pastafarian" and member of the Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster, which some critics call a parody religion. Read the full story at [WashingtonTimes.com](http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2015/nov/13/woman-wins-fight-wear-colander-drivers-license/).

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2015/nov/13/woman-wins-fight-wear-colander-drivers-license/>

Former New York Auto Clerk Gets Probation for Taking Bribes

A former New York auto bureau clerk has avoided jail for accepting bribes to help people get learner's permits. Read the full story at [Post-Journal.com](http://www.postjournal.com).

<http://post-journal.com/page/content.detail/id/986734/Former-New-York-auto-clerk-gets-probation-for-taking-bribes.html?isap=1&nav=5027>

New York To Suspend Registrations Of Chronic Toll Evaders

New York is cracking down on chronic toll evaders with a plan to yank their vehicle registrations. Read the full story at NewYork.CBSlocal.com.

<http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2015/11/17/ny-toll-evaders/>

GEICO Drivers in New York Can Use Smart Phones as Proof of Insurance

Starting Tuesday, drivers insured by GEICO can use their smart phones to prove to law enforcement they have car insurance, according to Gov. Andrew Cuomo. Read the full story at Syracuse.com.

http://www.syracuse.com/state/index.ssf/2015/11/geico_drivers_in_ny_can_use_smart_phones_as_proof_of_insurance.html

Uber Keeps on Rolling Across Ontario

Uber Canada is excited to introduce its highly popular ridesharing product, uberX, to several communities in Ontario today with rides available starting at 3:00 PM. Kingston, Windsor and Niagara Region join the ever-growing list of over 350 communities worldwide – and over 40 in Ontario – where Uber is available. Read the full story at TheStreet.com.

<http://www.thestreet.com/story/13362476/1/uber-keeps-on-rolling-across-ontario.html>

Aggressive Drivers Cause More Crashes than Distracted and Drunken Drivers Combined in Pennsylvania

Every year, Pennsylvania law enforcement officials and transportation experts meet to go over crash data in order to determine ways of cutting down on "aggressive driving" collisions. Read the full story at PennLive.com.

http://www.pennlive.com/news/2015/11/aggressive_driving_causes_more.html#incart_river_index

Cellphone-Related Crashes ‘Grossly Underreported’: PennDOT Official

While nearly everyone has a cellphone, less than 1 percent of the 109,120 car crashes in the midstate over the last six years were caused by drivers using their them. How can that be? Read the full story at PennLive.com.

http://www.pennlive.com/news/2015/11/cell_phone-related_crashes_gro.html

Region II

Georgia DDS Wins Prestigious Technology Award

Georgia Department of Driver Services (DDS) Commissioner Rob Mikell recently had the honor of accepting an Excalibur Award from The Technology Association of Georgia (TAG), the state's leading association dedicated to the promotion and economic advancement of Georgia's technology industry. The award was presented to DDS for licensing innovations including a Pre-Apply Online web-based service; the integration of a kiosk lobby management system at licensing centers; and the launch of a Mobile Emergency Licensing program. Read the DDS press release.

<http://www.dds.ga.gov/news/newsdetail.aspx?id=395>

NCDMV License and Theft Bureau Inspector Named Recipient of 2015 Governor's Award for Excellence in Heroism

License and Theft Bureau Inspector Talaya D. Vaughn of the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles was honored today with the Governor's Award for Excellence in Heroism for her July 2014 rescue of a crash victim from a burning vehicle. She received the award in an afternoon ceremony at North Carolina Museum of History in Raleigh. Read the DOT press release.

<https://apps.ncdot.gov/newsreleases/default.aspx?s=Governor%27s+Award+for+Excellence+in+Heroism&df=5%2f18%2f2015&dt=11%2f18%2f2015>

Big Texas Welcome for Google Self-Driving Cars

With Google's self-driving cars slowed in a gridlock of California regulation, Texas is offering a fast lane. Officials in Austin have embraced the technology, a welcome so warm that the mayor used talking points written by a Google lobbyist when the tech titan began testing prototypes on their streets over the summer. Read the full story at Bigstory.AP.org.

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:a221f22a7dd048969ca488c73ee567a6>

Region III

Ohio Bill Would Provide Confidential Address for Domestic Violence Victims

Victims of domestic violence, stalking and other crimes could have their addresses shielded from use by government agencies under proposed Ohio legislation. Read the full story at RecordPub.com.

<http://www.recordpub.com/latest%20headlines/2015/11/18/ohio-bill-would-provide-confidential-address-for-domestic-violence-victims>

WisDOT Improving Twitter Channels to Keep Drivers and Customers Better Connected and Informed

Like it or not, Old Man Winter is ready to return to Wisconsin. That means drivers also need to be ready for changing travel conditions during winter weather events. Last week marked "Winter Weather Awareness Week," a statewide public safety campaign co-sponsored by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT). Tied to this timely campaign, was the reorganization of WisDOT's network of 511 Wisconsin Twitter channels. The five regional travel information sites have been consolidated with

the existing statewide Twitter page for 511 Wisconsin: www.twitter.com/511WI. Read the DOT press release.

<http://wisconsin.gov/Pages/about-wisdot/newsroom/default.aspx>.

Region IV

Supreme Court Rules Albertans Have No Right to Have Traffic Tickets Written in French

The Supreme Court of Canada on Friday issued a ruling that says there is no historical element that prevents the province of Alberta from passing and enacting laws in English only. Read the full story at CBC.ca.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/supreme-court-rules-albertans-have-no-right-to-traffic-tickets-written-in-french-1.3327796>

Edmonton, Calgary Grappling with How to Deal with Uber Private for Hire Vehicles (Alberta)

Calgary and Edmonton are both in the midst of dealing with how to regulate private for-hire vehicle services. The Court of Queen's Bench has agreed to hear Calgary's application for an injunction to temporarily stop drivers of private for-hire vehicles who use the Uber app offering rides for a fee. Read the full story at NationalNewsWatch.com.

<http://www.nationalnewswatch.com/2015/11/13/edmonton-calgary-grappling-with-how-to-deal-with-uber-private-for-hire-vehicles/#.Vk1Wd9iFOUk>

DMV Hopes to Release Self-Driving Car Regulations by Year's End (California)

The state of California hopes to release the world's first safety regulations for the public use of self-driving cars by the end of the year, officials from the Department of Motor Vehicles said Wednesday. Read the full story at BizJournals.com.

<http://www.bizjournals.com/sacramento/news/2015/11/18/dmv-hopes-to-release-self-driving-car-regulations.html>

In U.S. Driver Lawsuit, Uber Must Live with Class Action Order for Now (California)

A U.S. appeals court on Tuesday denied ride service Uber's request to immediately appeal an order approving class certification in a lawsuit filed by drivers who wish to be deemed employees. Read the full story at Reuters.com.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/11/17/us-uber-tech-classaction-idUSKCN0T62IA20151117#yxxMdi5q9GPrg6oT.97>

Google Wants California to Step on Gas for Self-Driving Car Rules

Hustling to bring cars that drive themselves to a road near you, Google finds itself somewhere that has frustrated many before: waiting for the Department of Motor Vehicles. Read the full story at MiamiHerald.com.

<http://www.miamiherald.com/news/business/technology/article45072777.html>

Colorado State Patrol Trooper Jaimie Jursevics Hit and Killed Sunday

The Colorado State Patrol Trooper hit and killed on Interstate 25 Sunday night has been identified as Jaimie Jursevics. Court records show she was trying to stop an alleged drunk driver when she was hit. Read the full story at TheDenverChannel.com.

<http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/local-news/colorado-state-patrol-trooper-jaimie-jursevic-hit-and-killed-on-i-25-south-of-castle-rock-sunday>

Motor Vehicle Division Implements New Appointment Scheduling System (Montana)

The Montana Department of Justice's Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) announced its Driver License Bureau is implementing new software for its on-line appointment scheduling services. Read the Montana DOJ Press release.

<https://doimt.gov/motor-vehicle-division-implements-new-appointment-scheduling-system/>

Nevada is Riding Shotgun in Self-Driving Car Industry

In 2011, at the behest of Google, Nevada became the first state to legalize autonomous vehicle road-testing. Seeing the potential economic benefits, several states followed, including California, Michigan and Florida. At least 15 more now are considering legislation related to the cars. Read the full story at LasVegasSun.com.

<http://lasvegassun.com/news/2015/nov/16/nevada-is-riding-shotgun-in-self-driving-car-indus/>

Washington Releases Traffic Safety Materials for Tribal Members

The Washington Traffic Safety Commission formed the Tribal Traffic Safety Advisory Board to work with the 29 federally recognized tribes in Washington State. Their first deliverable was a set of culturally relevant videos and rack cards to inform and educate tribal members regarding traffic safety. Visit WTSC online to access the videos and other tribal resources. <http://wtsc.wa.gov/programs-priorities/tribes/>

Other News

Truckers Join Drive on U.S. Highways to Tackle Sex Trafficking

Truck driver Kevin Kimmel just finished making his overnight deliveries when he noticed something odd at the Virginia truckstop where he stopped to sleep. Read the full story at BT.com.

<http://www.bt.com.bn/features/2015/11/19/truckers-join-drive-us-highways-tackle-sex-trafficking>

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.).

Stay on top of “Twitter-town talk”. You may be surprised at what you’re missing! Follow @AAMVAConnection. (<http://twitter.com/#!/AAMVAConnection>)

- **Transport. 4 America @T4America | View the Tweet**
<https://twitter.com/T4America/status/667757571390877696>
Enter your zip code and bam: All the structurally deficient bridges w/in 10 miles of you
<http://t4america.org/maps-tools/bridges/> ...
- **Washington State DOT @wsdot | View the Tweet**
<https://twitter.com/wsdot/status/667755266138505216>
Our best times to travel charts for I-90, I-5, and US 2 over the Thanksgiving holiday have been posted: <http://1.usa.gov/1X306qC>
- **KansasDOT @DriveSafeKansas | View the Tweet**
<https://twitter.com/DriveSafeKansas/status/667753892407472130>
.@Topeka_Police unveiled its new anti-drunk driving campaign this week:
#ClearDrivingClearChoices. Be SAFE!
- **IBTTA @IBTTA | View the Tweet**
<https://twitter.com/IBTTA/status/667753523451404289>
NJ Transit director leaving for MTA job <http://buff.ly/1X7REkl> #tollrods
- **VermontDMV @VTDMV | View the Tweet**
<https://twitter.com/VTDMV/status/667751980161441792>
Audi to build traffic networking and driverless parking into Boston | CarAdvice
<http://ow.ly/USGTL>
- **Capgemini @Capgemini | View the Tweet**
<https://twitter.com/Capgemini/status/667750337479077888>
This #CarsOnline infographic reveals all the nuances of customer experience in the automotive industry. <http://ow.ly/UyLyN>
- **CT DMV @CTDMV | View the Tweet**
<https://twitter.com/CTDMV/status/667749486370910208>

When paying property taxes, remember you can ask your tax collector to electronically clear you. Then renew online, don't wait in line.

- **Drop It And Drive @DropItAndDrive | View the Tweet**
<https://twitter.com/DropItAndDrive/status/667745403694002176>
Imagine it's YOUR loved one @ risk #MoveOver 4 #EMS, #police & #fire. It's a matter of life & death #RoadSafety
- **GHSA @GHSAHQ | View the Tweet**
<https://twitter.com/GHSAHQ/status/667743288334635008>
New training tool from @FordDSFL helps to educate abt dangers of drugged driving
<https://drivingskillsforlife.com/mediacenter1/press-releases/Unique-Ford-Suit-Helps-Teach-Young-People-the-Dangerous-Effects-of-Driving-Under-the-Influence-of-Illegal-Drugs/> ...
- **TIRF Canada @TIRFCANADA | View the Tweet**
<https://twitter.com/TIRFCANADA/status/667745572984590337>
What factors help to make a #roadsafety campaign effective? Find the answer to this question and more: <http://ow.ly/USYhY> @CAA
- **Wyo Highway Patrol @WYHighwayPatrol | View the Tweet**
<https://twitter.com/WYHighwayPatrol/status/667744834988437506>
Pretty pertinent video today as this weather system moves across our state.
<https://youtu.be/hNX4-XZ4EwY> <http://fb.me/6P0oyTVQe>
- **DRIVE SMART Virginia @DRIVESMARTVA | View the Tweet**
<https://twitter.com/DRIVESMARTVA/status/667740624318164992>
We've brought the distracted driving simulator to a UofR car Safety day. Look for us across from the Robins Center.