Region 3 Conference Wraps Up

From October 23 – 25, AAMVA hosted the Region 3 Conference in Oak Brook, Illinois, which included the swearing in of the new Region 3 board members and officers, and their president, Kristina Boardman (Wisconsin). During the conference, members had the opportunity to network and attend sessions on hot topics, such as Real ID, Drug-Impaired Driving, Fraud, and Autonomous Vehicles, as well as an interactive Jurisdiction Roundtable, where attendees had the opportunity to share highlights, successes, and challenges they have faced over the past year. View photos of the event by visiting our Flickr page. Presentations are available for download on the AAMVA website (only for AAMVA members). If you attended the conference, please don't forget to provide feedback via the survey on our mobile app. Thank you to our sponsors who made this event possible!

Card Design Standard Committee Looking for Law Enforcement Representative

The Card Design Standards Committee has been jointly working with the eID Working Group on the topic of mobile driver licenses (mDL). The joint working group has been charged with the review and potential leveraging of existing identity credential standards and recommend standards for the AAMVA membership relating to the emergence and rising popularity of electronic identity (mDL being a prominent use case). The joint working group typically meets in-person once or twice annually, and members are funded for travel to this meeting. Additionally, members are expected to complete occasional assignments between meetings. At this time the Card Design Standard Committee is specifically looking for a Law Enforcement Representative (e.g., sworn trooper/officer). If you are interested in applying for the Card Design Standards Committee, please complete the application and return it to committees@aamva.org by November 30, 2018. If you have questions about the committee's activities, please contact Geoff Slagle, Director, Identity Management.

DMV Locations Adding Saturday Hours for REAL ID Transactions (New Hampshire)

Will your license FLY? Soon, federally compliant identification will be required to board domestic flights and enter some federal facilities. New Hampshire Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) offers REAL ID driver licenses and non-driver identification cards that are fully compliant with the federal requirements. Participation in the
REAL ID program is voluntary and other federally compliant identification, such as a passport, may also be used for domestic air travel. However, time is running out and we encourage New Hampshire residents who wish to obtain a REAL ID, to do so as soon as possible. REAL ID applications must be submitted in person. To make REAL ID services more easily accessible to NH residents, the New Hampshire DMV will be adding Saturday hours at some locations. Read the article at nh.gov.

Automatic Voter Registration in Place at New Jersey Motor Vehicle Agencies

Automatic voter registration is now a reality at motor vehicle agencies throughout New Jersey, thanks to a bill signed into law by Governor Phil Murphy. The opportunity is available for all eligible state residents who apply for a driver’s license, an examination permit, a probationary driver’s license, or a non-driver identification card. 'With the implementation of this law, we join a number of other states and the District of Columbia in expanding and protecting voting rights for our citizens,' said Governor Murphy. Read the article at state.nj.us.

New York Marks First Anniversary of Offering REAL ID

The New York State Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) today marked the one-year anniversary of the REAL ID becoming available in New York. The state first offered the ID to customers on October 30, 2017. To date, more than one million New Yorkers have opted for a REAL ID-compliant driver license or non-driver ID. Beginning October 1, 2020, the federal REAL ID Act will require air travelers to have REAL ID-compliant documentation to fly within the United States. The Act already requires a REAL ID to enter certain federal buildings. 'We began offering the REAL ID three years before the federal law takes effect to give New Yorkers ample time to get one,' said Terri Egan, DMV Executive Deputy Commissioner. 'Because of our successful early adoption of the REAL ID, we have even been asked by other states for helpful tips on implementing their own REAL ID. We will continue working hard to inform New Yorkers about the federal requirements, and we encourage anyone renewing or obtaining a license or non-driver ID for the first time to get a REAL ID and avoid a second trip to the DMV before October 2020.' Read the article at dmv.ny.gov.

NYS DMV Announces STOP-DWI Month in New York State

The New York State Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) today announced the start of STOP-DWI Month in New York State. Governor Andrew M. Cuomo recently issued a proclamation designating the month of November as STOP-DWI Month in New York. The New York State Special Traffic Options for Driving While Intoxicated (STOP-DWI) Program was established in November of 1981 to coordinate state and local efforts to reduce impaired-driving offenses and to prevent crashes across the state. Since the program was enacted, fatalities from alcohol-related crashes on New York’s roadways have decreased 74 percent. Read the article at dmv.ny.gov.

FSU Research Investigates ‘Smart’ Highway Signs to Prevent Wrong-Way Driving Crashes (Florida)

Innovative traffic safety research from Florida State University, incorporating a fascinating mix of engineering and psychology, is being deployed on highways to save lives by targeting a deadly problem: wrong-way driving crashes. The statistics are alarming. Nationwide, wrong-way crashes kill about 350 people a year and injure thousands more, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Walter Boot, associate professor in the FSU Department of Psychology and an expert on cognition and perception, has compiled two wrong-way driving reports for the Florida Department of Transportation. The research identifies ‘smarter’ signs and pavement markers equipped with advanced technology that can improve safety. Read the article at news.fsu.edu.
USF Drives Toward Autonomous Campus Travel (Florida)
Self-driving shuttles are one step closer to hitting the streets of the USF campus. University researchers have been conducting a study into the new technology and how it would be implemented on campus. The autonomous vehicles would provide students, faculty, and staff with another option to get around campus, said Brian Pessaro, a senior researcher at USF. A yearlong pilot-program would allow researchers to learn about the new technology. Read the article at fox13news.com.

Louisiana Highway Safety Commission Says Roads Are More Dangerous on Halloween Than New Year's Eve
The Louisiana Highway Safety Commission (LHSC) says Halloween can be even more deadly for drivers than New Year’s Eve. The safety commission says every year since 2005, Halloween in Louisiana has ranked first or second among holidays with the most wrecks in which people were injured or killed. That’s according to statistics from the Louisiana Highway Safety Research Group at LSU. LHSC Executive Director Lisa Freeman says the combination of distracted or impaired drivers, plus pedestrians on the roads trick-or-treating makes Halloween night more dangerous than New Year’s Eve. Read the article at ksla.com.

New TxDOT Safety Campaign asks 'What's the Reason You Don't Buckle Up?' (Texas)
On Aug. 24, 2016, Eden Ganzerla lost control of her car while driving to work and crashed into a retaining wall breaking nearly every bone in her body. Now she struggles with a traumatic brain injury and must speak through a computer. Eden was not wearing her seat belt...In 2017, almost 3,000 people were killed or seriously injured for simply failing to wear their seat belt in the state of Texas. Wearing a seat belt increases your chances of surviving a crash by 45 to 60 percent. 'Anytime someone is killed or seriously injured in a crash on a state highway, I take it personally,' said TxDOT Austin District Engineer Terry McCoy. 'It's our agency's mission to help everyone get home safely each night, and that's why we created this campaign.' Read the article at txdot.gov.

The Illinois Department of Transportation has launched a new statewide, multiagency initiative to develop a testing program for connected and automated vehicles. Gov. Bruce Rauner created the initiative today with an executive order directing IDOT to oversee Illinois, a program aimed at advancing the state to the forefront in research on these emerging safety technologies. Read the article at illinois.gov.

Illinois Traffic Safety Officials Learn from Minnesota Efforts to Reduce Roadway Deaths
Illinois transportation officials heard from Minnesota officials about a campaign working 'Toward Zero Deaths.' Nearly 1,100 people died on Illinois roads last year, the eighth-highest total in the country and a 2 percent increase from the previous year. Motor vehicle deaths nationwide declined. To investigate how other states are working to reduce deaths, Illinois Department of Transportation hosted a summit Tuesday in Springfield. Minnesota state traffic safety engineer Brad Estochen told the group about how Minnesota is bringing engineers, law enforcement, educators and public health officials together to address the problem. Read the article at ilnews.org.

Division of Vehicles to Launch Improved, Modernized

Pennsylvania RFP 3516R08: PA Motorcycle Data Study
Questions due November 2
Proposals due November 20, 2018

AAMVA RFQ FY19-17231: Culture Change Consultant
November 5, 2018

AAMVA RFQ FY19-17106 Enterprise Risk Management
November 9, 2018

AAMVA RFP FY20-17328: 2020 Region 4 Conference
November 14, 2018

Department of Motor Vehicles to Launch Improved, Modernized
Service (Kansas)
Many Kansas drivers will have the option to renew their license online starting October 23, just one customer service improvement in a list that includes new Monday hours and faster customer processing time, the Division of Vehicles announced Thursday. The option for some drivers to renew using the iKan mobile application comes alongside the launch of KanLicense, a software program that updates the interface used by driver's license examiners from an outdated mainframe system to a cloud-based application. The modernized software program should decrease customer processing time. Read the article at ksrevenue.org.

Minnesota Real ID Launch Reflects Well on IT's Ability, CIO Says
The successful launch of a federally mandated Real ID program would be a cause for celebration in any state, but Minnesota's IT leader said her agency's deployment reflects positively not only on technologists but on the recent and troubled arrival of its vehicle licensing and registration system. Minnesota residents will have until Oct. 1, 2020, to obtain the Real ID-compliant driver's licenses and IDs that will enable them to board domestic flights without a valid U.S. passport. After experiencing significant problems with the deployment in July 2017 of the Minnesota Licensing and Registration System (MNLARS), the state inked a $26 million contract with Colorado-based FAST Enterprises to spearhead its Real ID efforts. Read the article at govtech.com.

New Alaska State Driver's Licenses Are Out; Here's What They Look Like and What They Do
With preparations underway to get Alaska identification cards up to par for the Real ID Act, the DMV is rolling out new driver's licenses and state IDs with a new look and upgraded security. The new cards will feature a number of updates in addition to an overhauled design. These changes include safety features to make the IDs harder to counterfeit. Read the article at ktuu.com.

Getting a New License Plate? No Need to Bring the Old One Back (Arizona)
Buying a vehicle that needs a new license plate, or upgrading to a specialty or personalized plate? The Arizona Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Division is reminding motorists that you don't need to return an old license plate to the MVD. 'We're working very hard to get Arizonans out of line and safely on the road, and part of that is letting people know it's okay to keep an old license plate instead of taking time out of a busy day to go to an MVD office,' said MVD Stakeholder Relations Manager Jennifer Bowser-Richards. Read the article at azdot.gov.

Waymo Gets Green Light for Robot Cars in California; No Humans Needed
Waymo is the first company in California allowed to test robot cars on public roads with no human driver behind the steering wheel, it said Tuesday. The California Department of Motor Vehicles has given Waymo a permit for up to 40 fully autonomous cars to drive both day and night on city streets, rural highways and highways with posted speeds up to 65 mph. The company, which is the self-driving unit of Google parent Alphabet, did not say how soon the vehicles might roll. Waymo, like most companies testing self-driving cars, has long put backup drivers and engineers in the front seats of vehicles for safety purposes and to gather data on the cars' performance. The permit it has obtained is the first of its kind in the state. Read the article at sfchronicle.com.
Colorado Releases 5-Year Marijuana Study on Teen Use, Driving Stats
After five years of data collection, the Colorado Department of Public Safety released its much-anticipated baseline report on the impacts of marijuana legalization. The data provide glimpses for the first time into the how legalization has impacted several highly-charged subjects, including usage among young people and driving impairment. Read the article at aspentimes.com.

New System Will Alert Drivers to Pedestrians, Bicyclists (Washington)
A cutting-edge system is coming to one of the area's most popular trails. The goal is to alert drivers to pedestrians and bicyclists. The new system, which will rely entirely on solar power, will be installed along the Burke-Gilman Trail next week. University of Washington researchers will place smart sensors on light poles that will be exposed to the sun, so they can be powered independently and will function as a warning system for areas where the trail meets the road. Read the article at kiro7.com.

Feds Investigate Whether Mercedes Delayed Informing Owners, Regulators About Safety Problems
Federal regulators are investigating whether Mercedes-Benz failed to follow regulations regarding recalls, including not promptly telling owners and the agency about safety defects. In an October 22nd letter sent to the automaker, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says it has 'concerns with Mercedes-Benz USA LLC’s compliance with federal laws and regulations applicable to safety recalls.' The agency told Mercedes its concerns include failing to inform owners of safety recalls within the required sixty days and not providing the agency with key information about the recall. Read the article at forbes.com.

New CDC Study Shows Increase of People Driving While Using Marijuana
A new study shows an increase of people driving while stoned. According to the study conducted by the Centers for Disease and Prevention, marijuana use is increasing and 13-percent of the time, weekend drivers have the drug in their system. The study also stated that marijuana users were about 25 percent more likely to be involved in a crash than drivers with no evidence of marijuana use; however, the study also stated other factors such as age and gender may account for the increased crash risk among drivers. Read the article at kutv.com.

New Vehicle Report Scam Targets People Selling Their Vehicles
A new, bizarre scam is targeting people who are selling their vehicles online. The Federal Trade Commission issued a warning this month about vehicle history report scams tricking consumers into giving up their personal information. Read the article at wptv.com.

Safewise Best and Worst States for Driving in Bad Weather
Floods and tornadoes may get all the headlines, but neither is the deadliest weather hazard. It’s driving in winter weather. In 2016, floods and tornadoes were responsible for a combined 144 weather-related fatalities across the US.¹ That same year, more than 2,800 lives were lost due to snow and rain on American roads.² Winter road conditions like sleet, ice, snow, and freezing rain make getting behind the wheel a risky move. With winter weather lurking in the wings it’s only a matter of time before the 2017 winter crash numbers start to climb. To better understand the risks—and pinpoint the roads to avoid when Jack Frost gets up to his mischief—
we’ve identified the ten most dangerous states for both rain and snow driving. Read the article at safewise.com.

The Meteoric Rise of Uber and Lyft May Have Spurred a Deadly Outcome, According to New Research
In the years before Uber and Lyft started popping up in cities across the United States, deadly car accidents were at record lows. By 2010, just before the ride-hailing services began to expand en masse, the total number of traffic fatalities sank to 32,885 nationwide, the lowest number since 1949, according to government data. But once Uber and Lyft began aggressively expanding, the authors of a yet-to-be-published study have found, those fatal accidents began to slowly rise once again. Read the article at businessinsider.com.

Trial Will Determine Whether Broad Teen Driver Safety Intervention Can Decrease Their Motor Vehicle Crashes
A new research project at the University of Alabama at Birmingham focuses on improving teen driver safety with a randomized controlled trial of a comprehensive parenting program and teen on-road driver assessment. With a $2 million R01 grant from the National Institutes of Health, researchers will determine whether the program can increase parent engagement and safely expedite teens’ acquisition of important driving skills, potentially reducing crashes during their first year of licensure. Read the article at uab.edu.

TWITTER NEWS

@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 the chatter in the MVA and LE community. You may be surprised at what you’re missing! Follow @AAMVAConnection.

Check out recent @AAMVAConnection Twitter action.

***Thank you for the @AAMVAConnection mentions!***

MaineDOT @MaineDOT1 | View the Tweet
OK – we may be partial, but we think these are the greatest #Halloween costumes ever! Thanks for making our day by using our highway sign slogans in your costumes. And the fact that they light up ensures YOU won’t get smashed like a pumpkin. Kudos. #MaineThing
When not protecting the Wicked Witch of the West, her minions are passionate about educating Marylanders on Real ID! You can check your Real ID status here: http://www.mva.maryland.gov/realidlookup  #halloween #RealID
Texas Department of Transportation @TxDOT | View the Tweet
November 2018 marks a grim milestone for Texas – 18 straight years of daily deaths on our roads. Not something to be proud of. #EndTheStreakTX.
Wisconsin DOT @WisconsinDOT | View the Tweet
“What are you going to be for Halloween?”

Me: Sober.

Halloween should be a night of good memories, not nightmares. Even buzzed driving is drunk driving. #DriveSober

Michigan State Police @MichStatePolice | View the Tweet
These MSP pumpkins are so cool! The [siren] is a unique way of lighting a pumpkin. #HappyHalloween
Utah Highway Patrol @UTHighwayPatrol | View the Tweet
DUI Blitz tonight
If you plan on drinking, plan on not driving
Make sure your #Halloween plans include a safe and sober ride home

WA State Patrol @wastatepatrol | View the Tweet
Someone decided to dress up like her dad/handler today! K9 Luna and the entire WSP wish you a very safe and happy #Halloween2018!