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Louisiana State Police Superintendent Receives Lifetime Achievement Award

Arlington, VA - At its Annual International Conference in Dover, Delaware, August 25-27, 2014, the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA) presented the Superintendent of the Louisiana State Police, Colonel Michael Edmonson, with the Martha Irwin Award for Lifetime Achievement in Highway Safety. This award is presented to a distinguished individual in recognition of his commitment to and accomplishments in highway safety over the course of his career. Previous recipients include John Kuo of the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration; Captain Leonard P. Casper of the New York State Police; John R. Batiste, Chief of the Washington State Patrol; Major David Salmon of the New York State Police; Colonel Mark Trostel, Chief of the Colorado State Patrol; The Honorable John Hill, former Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and Major in the Indiana State Police; and Commissioner Joe Farrow of the California Highway Patrol.

There were a record number of nominations submitted for consideration for the Martha Irwin Award for Lifetime Achievement in Highway Safety this year. Colonel Michael Edmonson is the winner of the Law Enforcement Category; Mr. Robert Redmond of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) is the recipient of the award in the non-law enforcement category.

“Colonel Michael Edmonson has made incredible strides in highway safety for the betterment of the public,” said Chair of the AAMVA Board of Directors, Jennifer Cohan. “His leadership and strong advocacy for safety both inside and outside of his home jurisdiction is what makes him such a deserving candidate for the Martha Irwin Award for Lifetime Achievement in Highway Safety. The sum of his contributions to highway safety over the course of his distinguished career makes him deserving of this recognition.”

Edmonson is a career state police officer having joined the organization in 1981. In 2008, he was appointed as the 25th Superintendent of the Louisiana State Police, a position he still holds today. He also currently serves as the Deputy Secretary of Public Safety Services and is responsible for an agency of more than 2900 employees and a budget of nearly one-half billion dollars. In his role as Deputy Secretary, Edmonson oversees the Louisiana Highway Safety Commission, the Office of Management and Finance, the Office of Motor Vehicles, the Office of State Fire Marshal, the Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinator's Office, and the Liquefied Petroleum Gas

Commission. In the fall of 2012 upon the reelection of Governor Jindal, Edmonson was reappointed to the Governor's Cabinet.

Edmonson has been involved with many highway safety campaigns in Louisiana over the last 34 years, including the *Click it or Ticket*, *Put it Down*, and *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* campaigns. He is also the driving force in Louisiana behind the development and implementation of the Traffic Incident Management (TIM) system training, and has focused on safety education and proactive policing.

Founded in 1933, AAMVA actively promotes traffic safety and uniformity among North American jurisdictions. Representing chief motor vehicle administrators and law enforcement officials, the association develops uniform programs in driver licensing, vehicle titling/registration and motor carrier services, among others.

For more information visit www.aamva.org.

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