

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 23, 2019

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Motor Vehicle and Law Enforcement Agencies Receive Prestigious Awards at 2019 Annual International Conference

Arlington, VA – The American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA) presented the following awards at the 2019 AAMVA International Conference, August 20 - 22, in Omaha, Nebraska:

Public Affairs and Consumer Education (PACE) Overall Campaign Awards

AAMVA's PACE Awards Program recognizes public relations, public affairs, and consumer education excellence among the motor vehicle, law enforcement, and traffic safety agencies across North America. They recognize creativity, cost effectiveness and the ability to reach consumers with a well-crafted, measured and executed message. The PACE Overall Campaign Awards are given to a jurisdiction for a full multi-faceted campaign.

Montana Department of Justice Motor Vehicle Division received the **PACE Overall Campaign Award, Budget Under 50k** for their **"The Real Me" Public Information Campaign**. The Montana REAL ID campaign is a public information campaign designed to disseminate facts in a clear and transparent manner to Montana citizens to raise awareness about REAL ID. The campaign is a collaboration between Montana Motor Vehicle Division and Montana State University Billings (MSU-Billings). Three classes at MSU-Billings worked on this collaboration.

South Dakota Department of Public Safety Office of Highway Safety received the **PACE Overall Campaign Award, Budget Over 50k** for their **"Jim Reaper" Campaign**. The South Dakota Office of Highway Safety is keeping drivers safe by reminding them that Death is always watching and waiting for them to slip up. The "Jim Reaper" campaign inserts a Grim Reaper character into the lives of everyday people as a reminder to beat Death—not just cheat it—as drivers make the right decisions to outsmart Death and stay safe on the road.

Lifetime Achievement in Highway Safety

The Lifetime Achievement in Highway Safety is presented to a distinguished individual in recognition of his or her commitment to and accomplishments in highway safety over the course of his or her career. One award is presented for achievement in highway safety in Motor Vehicle Administration and one for achievement in highway safety in Law Enforcement.

Chuck DeWeese, Assistant Commissioner, New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, received the **Lifetime Achievement in Highway Safety, Motor Vehicle Administration Category**. Chuck DeWeese started his career in highway safety in 1992 as a special agent at the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration where he conducted safety investigations on poor-performing truck and bus carriers and worked with U.S. Department of Transportation legal advisors to remove non-compliant carriers from roadways. He was subsequently promoted to acting division administrator where he led criminal investigations and spearheaded a multiagency effort to reduce commercial motor vehicle crashes, leading to his life-long passion for saving lives on highways. In 2007, Chuck was hired as the assistant commissioner of the New York Governor's Traffic Safety Committee. Since then, he has been

the driving force behind the Committee's most nationally-recognized and effective traffic safety campaigns and programs including, but not limited to: establishing the state's Impaired Driving Advisory Council; developing the Distracted Driving Enforcement campaign; and partnering to create the state's award-winning Pedestrian Safety Action Plan, an ambitious partnership of the New York State Departments of Health and Transportation and the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee. In addition, Chuck chairs New York State's Traffic Records Coordinating Council, serves as a Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) regional representative, and as Chair of the Federal Relations Committee which is the conduit between the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and GHSA.

"Chuck DeWeese has devoted his career to making highways and drivers safe for all roadway users," said AAMVA President and CEO, Anne Ferro. "He is a well-respected leader, both locally and nationally, and a dedicated advocate in reducing fatalities and serious injuries on his state's roadways and across the nation. He has put New York State at the forefront of transportation safety innovation."

Colonel Nathaniel McQueen, Jr., Superintendent, Delaware State Police, received the **Lifetime Achievement in Highway Safety, Law Enforcement Category**. Colonel Nathaniel McQueen, Jr. joined the Delaware State Police (DSP) ranks in 1988 and has served in many leadership roles during his career. On December 20, 2012, Colonel McQueen was appointed by Delaware's Governor as the superintendent of the Delaware State Police. He commands 716 troopers and 240 civilian employees. In 2014, the Colonel led a critical review of the agency's accountability process with the goal of being more effective and efficient in reducing crime and traffic collisions. Utilizing A Police Organizational Model For Crime Reduction as a guide, he used a combination of intelligence-led policing and accountability to improve operations. This process led to the state-wide implementation of a stratified policing model known as the Delaware State Police Enhanced Analytical Response (SPEAR). Between 2015 and 2017, those practices and procedures became anchored in the DSP culture, making it the first U.S. state police agency to successfully adopt this model. Since its inception, SPEAR has had a positive influence on highway safety in Delaware. According to Colonel McQueen's article in the September 2018 edition of Police Chief Magazine, projections are tracking toward a 15-year low in motorcycle and pedestrian related crashes, with a decrease in fatal crashes as well. Proactive DUI arrests and drug investigations for patrol officers have also been positively impacted. This year's investigations are projected to be the highest in over 15 years, directly contributing to a decline in impaired fatal crashes. Before SPEAR implementation, alcohol and/or drugs were involved in over 50% of the fatal crashes. In 2017 and 2018, impairment rates have declined to 45% and 41%, respectively. Colonel McQueen works regularly with the Delaware Office of Highway Safety, Division of Motor Vehicles, and the Department of Transportation to address emerging challenges with roadway, vehicle, and license legislation. At the Colonel's direction, DSP organized the Interstate 95 challenge, which coordinates all 15 states along the east coast who police I-95 to address speeding and aggressive driving and to reduce traffic collisions. DSP participates in the Drive to Save Lives campaign where each troop area provides added resources to hot spots for enhanced highway safety, and Colonel McQueen encouraged all in-state agencies to participate in hot spot areas within their jurisdictions. In 2018, Colonel McQueen brought Below 100 training to DSP, with the goal of improving trooper safety on the roadways. Colonel McQueen earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Behavioral Science from Wilmington University and a Master of Science degree in Social Work from Delaware State University. He is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy. Before joining the Delaware State Police, he served in the U.S. Marine Corps.

"Colonel McQueen has always prioritized community service and safety as hallmarks of his leadership," said AAMVA President and CEO, Anne Ferro. "He has worked tirelessly to make our roadways safer, and I am honored to present him with AAMVA's Lifetime Achievement Award in Highway Safety."

International Driver Examiner Certification (IDEC) Outstanding Examiner of the Year

The AAMVA International Driver Examiner Certification (IDEC) Board and AAMVA recognize outstanding driver examiners through the IDEC Examiner of the Year award. Examiners are selected for their excellence in adhering to the principles and recommended practices of driver examining (the Examiner's Code of Ethics) and for their high level of conduct in their profession.

Earl Bunnell, Driver License Examiner at the New Hampshire Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV), received the **IDEC Outstanding Examiner of the Year award**. Earl Bunnell has been an Examiner for 32 years and has performed thousands of operator and motorcycle licensing tests. He works in a remote outpost in northern New Hampshire, within a few miles of Mt. Washington, home of the coldest recorded temperatures and highest wind gusts reported anywhere in the world. Bunnell always deals with the public with respect and professionalism no matter the situation or condition.

“Earl Bunnell is a tremendous examiner and a great public servant who has dedicated himself to the mission of safe drivers, safe vehicles, and safe roadways,” said AAMVA President and CEO, Anne Ferro. “Examiners like Earl Bunnell do important work to promote highway safety, and we are pleased and proud to recognize him with the IDEC Outstanding Examiner of the Year.”

Trailblazer Award

The Trailblazer Award recognizes a jurisdiction agency or individual who identified and implemented innovative changes that positively affected their agency and community.

The Arizona Motor Vehicle Division received the **Trailblazer Award** for their ***Title Transfer Goes Electronic***. eTitle is a groundbreaking program established by the Arizona Department of Transportation MVD to move the title transfer process from paper to electronic. Consumers are able to electronically complete the title transfer process without going to an MVD office. Besides the consumer component, the program has elements that provide significant time and cost savings for automobile dealers and towing companies. The electronic title transfer process also helps eliminate fraud that can be conducted with paper titles.

“Arizona Motor Vehicle Division’s innovative eTitle program provides for much more efficient operations that not only saves the agency time and money, but also allows for a smoother customer service experience,” said AAMVA President and CEO, Anne Ferro.

AAMVA’s awards program fosters a tradition of excellence in the motor vehicle and law enforcement community by honoring individuals, teams, and organizations who have committed their time and resources to safety initiatives, outstanding customer service, and public affairs and consumer educational programs throughout North America.

Founded in 1933, AAMVA serves North American motor vehicle and law enforcement agencies to accomplish their missions. The association’s vision of *Safe Drivers, Safe Vehicles, Secure Identities, Saving Lives* guides AAMVA’s activities, resources, and programs in driver licensing, vehicle titling/registration, motor carrier services, identity management, and technology solutions. For more information about AAMVA and its awards program, please visit our website at www.AAMVA.org.

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