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Motor Vehicle and Law Enforcement Agencies Receive Prestigious AAMVA Awards

Arlington, VA – The American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA) presented the following awards:

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.

Karen Grim received the **Lifetime Achievement in Highway Safety, Motor Vehicle Administration Category**. Deputy Commissioner Karen Grim's 44-year career at the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles began after her high school graduation in 1973, moving from data entry operator through a dozen roles throughout the agency before her recent retirement. She was instrumental in the original design and development of the interface used by courts to electronically transmit conviction and suspension-related data to DMV. Grim has been dubbed the "mother" of the Driver's License Agreement, and as Chair of the Driver License Compact Board, she provided experience, knowledge, and most importantly, leadership, to the effort of advancing one driver, one license and highway safety. She served as president of AAMVA's Region 2 Board of Directors, and has held several other leadership roles on AAMVA committees and working groups developing best practices and model legislation. As DMV's primary liaison with Donate Life Virginia, Grim has strengthened the partnership between the two organizations. In recognition and appreciation for trailblazers before her, she has forged a commendable path of her own and continues the mantle by making a concerted effort to impart knowledge, empower, and pay it forward to future generations.

"Congratulations to Karen Grim for this well-earned recognition. Karen has devoted her career to keeping drivers safe on the road and advancing the idea of one driver, one license," said AAMVA President and CEO, Anne Ferro. "Her wide range of experience and knowledge gives her a unique perspective revered by so many of her colleagues in the AAMVA community."

Warren A. Stanley, Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol (CHP), received the **Lifetime Achievement in Highway Safety, Law Enforcement Category**. For over 37 years, Commissioner Stanley has served as a leader and supported the implementation of traffic safety programs and education and community participation and has dedicated himself to public service as a member of the California Highway Patrol. Appointed in February 2018, Stanley is the first African-American to be appointed as Commissioner of the CHP, the largest state law enforcement agency in the U.S. Commissioner Stanley has been employed with the CHP since 1982 and is one of the distinguished few to hold every position from Officer to Commissioner within the CHP. He has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to public service and is firmly dedicated to CHP employees. He is a respected member of the law enforcement community and has made a life-long commitment to ensure the safety of the people of California. Through his life experiences he has garnered the ability to reach out, connect, listen, and recognize all communities within his state, allowing the California

Highway Patrol to develop strong partnerships to promote the safety of the people the department serves.

“Commissioner Stanley is a tireless proponent of highway safety, promoting education, enforcement, and coordination on California’s roadways,” said AAMVA President and CEO, Anne Ferro. “We are honored to present him with AAMVA’s Lifetime Achievement Award in Highway Safety for Law Enforcement and grateful for his remarkable service on behalf of others 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.

John Mathieu with the Florida Department of Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles (FLHSMV), received the **IDEC Outstanding Examiner of the Year award**. John has been a driver license examiner with the FLHSMV for 10 years, and during that time he has been an exemplary examiner. His spirit of teamwork has earned him the respect of all his co-workers. In addition to serving as a driver license examiner, he volunteers with the Document Validation Unit Project, a project created to allow examiners from field offices to assist the unit with approximately 8,000 lawful presence cases monthly which need additional verification prior to issuance. He takes his job responsibilities very seriously and goes above and beyond to ensure that his customers are served efficiently and promptly. If a customer issue arises, he takes the time to explain and makes sure the customer's needs are met.

“Congratulations to John Mathieu, whose dedication to the mission of safe drivers, safe vehicles, and safe roadways is laudable,” said AAMVA President and CEO, Anne Ferro. “Driver License Examiners like John Mathieu do important work to promote highway safety, and we are pleased to recognize him with the IDEC Outstanding Examiner of the Year Award.”

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 Texas Department of Motor Vehicles received the **Trailblazer Award** for their **eTITLE Application**. The application affords licensed motor vehicle dealers the ability to create, view, and store titles electronically within the department’s webDEALER application. It facilitates the secure transfer of electronic titles between dealers in the wholesale market, eliminates the requirement for lienholders to convert electronic titles to a paper document when vehicles are traded in, and uses electronic titles as ownership evidence in retail sales. The eTITLE application allows titles to remain electronic from first issuance through subsequent transfers and prevents fraud by providing visibility into title transfers not previously available.

“Texas Department of Motor Vehicles’ innovative eTITLE program sets a new standard for online service delivery, saving the agency time and money, and providing a smooth customer service experience,” said AAMVA President and CEO, Anne Ferro.

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.

Saskatchewan Government Insurance (SGI) received the **PACE Overall Campaign Award, Budget Over 50k** for their **"Distracted Driving Kills"** campaign. SGI's campaign took aim at distracted driving, the top contributing factor in collisions on Saskatchewan roads and a top contributing factor in injuries and deaths. The campaign puts a name, a face, and a story to the issue – Kailynn Bursic-Panchuck, from Tyvan, Saskatchewan, who lost her life to distracted driving a day after she turned 17. Using real photos of Kailynn, the campaign also includes the voice of Kailynn's mother to narrate a television commercial and radio ad. Through paid and earned media, and with the voice and support of her mother, SGI's message reminded viewers about the hopes and dreams they held together for the future; graduating college, travelling the world, finding a career, finding love, getting married, building a family, only to be cut short by driving distracted.

North Dakota Department of Transportation received the **PACE Overall Campaign Award, Budget Under 50k** for their **"Nelson Rural Roads"** campaign. This occupant protection campaign featured the Nelson family who lost their son and brother in a rural vehicle crash in North Dakota. Kyle Nelson was not wearing a seat belt at the time of the crash and was ejected from the vehicle. Kyle's mom, dad, and brother tell their heartbreaking story with the hope of preventing others from making the same choice Kyle did. North Dakota used their story to reach those in rural areas and to promote seat belt use. The Nelson campaign included a media mix of social media and digital ads, along with a YouTube video and a page dedicated to the campaign on the Vision Zero website.

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.

AAMVA Awards are traditionally presented at our Regional Conferences and Annual International Conference. These conferences were cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic; we have recorded video presentations for each of the Regions and for our International winners. You can learn more about the International award winners [in this video](#). For more information visit www.aamva.org.

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