AAMVA Leadership Academy Wraps Up

The 2018 Class of AAMVA’s Leadership Academy officially completed their training last week, wrapping up several days of professional development, leadership training, and networking. As part of the training course, the 19 up-and-coming jurisdiction leaders heard from industry professionals, met with experienced administrators, and toured the Virginia DMV, among many other activities. To get a glimpse into what the week was like for the Leadership Academy participants, visit AAMVA’s Flickr page, or watch this video wrap-up to hear from the participants themselves.

2018 Region 1 Conference Next Week!

The 2018 Region 1 Conference will get underway next week, May 14-17, in Wilmington, Delaware! Register online today! The conference provides an opportunity for you and your peers to discuss relevant driver’s license, motor vehicle and law enforcement related issues. As with every AAMVA conference, the ability to network is one of the most beneficial experiences, and this year’s regional conference provides several networking opportunities as well as interactive learning opportunities. Jurisdiction attendees will learn about the successes and challenges of others, share ideas, build relationships, and discover the many products and services provided by our industry partners that can assist in your mission. Industry attendees will have the opportunity to meet with key players in the driver’s license, motor vehicle and law enforcement arenas. Visit the 2018 Region 1 Conference Website for more information and to register!

2018 Region 2 Conference - Early Bird Deadline May 24th

Register online today for AAMVA’s Region 2 Conference, June 18-21, in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. This unique opportunity provides AAMVA members with an intimate and collaborative environment to discuss relevant driver license, motor vehicle and law enforcement issues. Register by May 24th to get the Early Bird Registration rate and save! Visit the 2018 Region 2 Conference website for more information and to register.

JURISDICTION NEWS

Georgia Handheld Ban Among State Traffic Safety Law Improvements

Georgia Governor Nathan Deal signed H.B. 673 into law, making the state the 16th (along with D.C., Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands) to ban handheld wireless device phone use behind the wheel. Georgia is just one of several states improving traffic safety laws during their 2018 legislative sessions. Notably, Idaho and Iowa have also enacted laws requiring ignition interlocks for all convicted drunk drivers, including first-time offenders. Visit here for more information.
Maine Bureau of Motor Vehicles Long Term Trailer Plate Changes
Effective May 2, 2018, the Maine Bureau of Motor Vehicles will no longer be making long term – semi permanent trailer registration plates with an embossed expiration date. The word “MAINE” will be centered on the top of the plate. The plate expiration date will continue to be captured in the bureau’s computer system. Long term trailer plates with an embossed expiration date will remain in circulation until the registration expires or until inventory levels are depleted. If you have additional questions regarding this plate, please contact the Maine Bureau of Motor Vehicles at (207) 624-9000 Ext. 52151.

AZ Governor Signs Law for Fee to Stabilize Highway Patrol Funding
Arizona Governor Doug Ducey signed a law April 25 that would allow the director of the Arizona Department of Transportation to levy another fee on vehicles. The governor’s action comes shortly after the state Senate passed the bill April 23. The legislation, which moved through the Senate under the title SB 1146, states that the registering officer “shall collect a highway safety fee” annually. Although the bill does not explicitly state how much this safety fee would be, it instructs where the money will go. Read more here.

FMCSA ELD Violations Information Updated
The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has updated its Compliance, Safety, Accountability (CSA) Safety Measurement System (SMS) website to include violations related to Electronic Logging Device (ELD) regulations found during roadside inspections. These violations are not being applied retroactively to April 1, 2018; violations recorded prior to April 1, 2018 will not be counted in SMS. Motor carriers that have received ELD-related violations will start to see them reflected in their Hours-of-Service (HOS) Compliance BASIC in early May 2018 when the next monthly SMS results are released. A complete list of the ELD violations and their severity weights is available in the SMS Appendix A spreadsheet. The SMS Methodology document will be updated following the May release.

New Member of the TRB Executive Committee Announced: Brian W. Ness, Director of the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD)
Brian W. Ness, Director of the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD), has been newly appointed to serve on the TRB Executive Committee. Since 2010, Ness has served as the ITD Director. Ness is an active member of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), chairing the AASHTO Special Committee on Transportation Security and Emergency Management (SCOTSEM) until August 2017 and serving as current chair of the AASHTO Special Committee on Research and Innovation. He served as President of the Western Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (WASHTO) in 2016. Ness is an expert on organizational realignment and speaks regularly at national conferences about how to structure a more effective and accountable state government. Ness earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Tri-State University and a Master’s degree in Public Administration from Western Michigan University. He is a licensed professional engineer in Michigan and Idaho. Before becoming the director of ITD, he worked for 30 years at the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), holding a variety of positions in research, operations, aeronautics, construction, and project development. Ness ended his career with MDOT as the North Region Administrator/Engineer. Read more here.

GHSA: New Data Finds Motorcyclist Fatalities Down 5.6% in 2017
A new report from the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) projects that 4,990 people were killed on motorcycles in 2017. This number, based on preliminary data provided by State Highway Safety Offices (SHSOs), represents a projected 5.6% decrease from 2016 – a difference of 296 lives. In spite of this reduction, motorcyclists remain significantly overrepresented as a proportion of all traffic deaths, with motorcyclist fatalities occurring 28 times more often than passenger vehicle occupant fatalities per mile traveled. This is a stark reminder that much work remains to establish a lasting downward trend. Motorcyclist Traffic Fatalities by State: 2017 Preliminary Data provides an early look at current data, trends, and developing issues. All 50 states and the District of Columbia contributed their preliminary motorcyclist fatality counts for the full 2017 calendar year. Compared with 2016, motorcyclist fatalities decreased in 30 states, remained the same in two states, and increased in 18 states. The report was authored by Tara Casanova Powell, an independent researcher previously affiliated with Preusser Research Group and the Traffic Injury Research Foundation. Read more here.

Travel Effects and Associated Greenhouse Gas Emissions of Automated Vehicles
The National Center for Sustainable Transportation at the University of California at Davis has released a report that assesses the state-of-the-practice of automated vehicles (AVs) and their effects on travel and the environment. This paper identifies changes that AVs may have on increased roadway capacity, reduced travel time, monetary costs, parking, induced travel demand, new traveler groups, and energy. Read more here.
Medical/Vision Policies & Procedures (Ends 05/17/2018)
Responses received from AL, FL, ID, IN, LA, ME, MS, ND, NH, PA, SC, SD, UT, VA.

Third-party CDL Examiner Audit Processes (Ends 05/21/2018)
Responses received from AL, AR, CT, FL, ID, IL, IN, ME, MN, MO, MT, NC, NE, NH, NM, SC, SD, TX, UT, WA, WI.

Vehicle Safety Inspection Programs (Ends 05/25/2018)
Responses received from AZ, FL, ID, LA, MD, ME, MN, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NY, OR, PA, TX, UT, WY.

Issuing Multiple Credentials - S2S (Ends 06/04/2018) Responses received from FL, LA, NE, SD, VA.

Bioptic Driving (Ends 06/07/2018)
You can view all open surveys and responses to all surveys by visiting the survey tool. Please contact Janice Dluzynski if you have any questions about using the survey tool.

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