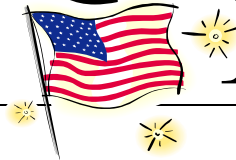




Quarterly Report



VOLUME 27, NUMBER 4

October 2019

Are you a gold-star DL?

The Transportation Security Administration announced that beginning in 2020, air travelers ages 18 and older will need a REAL ID-compliant driver's license (or another acceptable form of ID) to fly within the United States.

REAL ID-compliant cards are generally marked with a star located in the upper portion of the card. If you're not sure, contact your local driver's license agency to check.

The REAL ID Act was enacted in 2005 based on the 9/11 Commission's recommendation that the federal government "set standards for the issuance of sources of identification, such as driver's licenses."

The rule goes into effect beginning October 1, 2020.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

Because Texas is in compliance with the REAL ID Act, all Texas driver licenses and identification cards are currently valid forms of identification for federal purposes.

If your card expires before October 1, 2022, and you want a REAL ID-compliant card, you can request a duplicate card either in person or through Texas.gov. If you have been issued a card on or after October 10, 2016, and see a gold star in the upper right hand corner, you already have a REAL ID Act compliant card, and no further action is required on your part.

To determine if you are eligible to renew online or need to obtain a replacement card, visit www.texas.gov

Speed limit increases are tied to 37,000 deaths over 25 years

Rising speed limits over the past 25 years have cost nearly 37,000 lives, including more than 1,900 in 2017 alone, a new Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) study shows.

The research, an update of a 2016 analysis, calls attention to the trade-off between a few minutes of saved travel time and the increased risk of fatalities.

About 10,000 people a year die in speed-related crashes. Maximum speed limits have been rising since the mid-1990s. Proponents of raising the speed limit often argue that such increases simply bring the law in line with reality, since most drivers exceed the limit. Once the limit is raised, however, drivers go even faster. Today, 41 states have maximum speed limits of 70 mph or higher. Six states have 80 mph limits, and drivers in

Cont. on page 2

CURRICULUM UPDATE

USA DRIVERS SAFETY COURSE CURRICULUM REPLACEMENT PAGE 86 (attached)

House Bill 105 requires that Driver Safety schools begin teaching information relating to oversize and overweight vehicles. USA has edited our curriculum to reflect these changes on page 86 (attached). We have added information about safe following distances and the blind spots on larger vehicles.

Please replace page 86 in your curriculum.

Driver Responsibility Program

As of September 1, 2019 the Driver Responsibility Program was repealed as outlined in email from USA HQs (sent 08/29/19). If you did not receive REPLACEMENT pages 41/42 for curriculum, contact USA immediately.

Injuries higher in energy-producing areas of Texas

Booming energy production has brought jobs and economic gains to communities throughout Texas, but also an unintended consequence with a rise in traffic fatalities and injuries. In 2017, more than 194,000 crashes - an average of 532 per day in the state's five main oil and gas production regions - resulted in 1,614 deaths and 7,422 serious injuries, a slight increase over the previous year.

TxDOT officials point to failure to control speed and driver inattention as the main reasons we are seeing a rise in traffic crashes in areas such as the Barnett Shale, Eagle Ford Shale, Granite Wash, Haynesville/Bossier Shale and Permian Basin. Driving under the influence of alcohol is also a primary factor in these fatal crashes.

Fatalities decline in state's highway construction areas

In spite of a decrease in work zone crashes in Texas last year, 161 people still lost their lives and another 684 were seriously injured. 84% were motorists and/or their passengers.

Work zones present a different environment for drivers to navigate with concrete barriers, slow moving heavy equipment and vehicles that may make sudden stops," said TxDOT Executive Director James Bass.

"That's why we're urging drivers to pay special attention in work zones on Texas roadways - for their protection and the safety of highway work crews."

In 2018 a total of 25,162 work zone traffic crashes were reported, an average of nearly 70 crashes per day, resulting in deaths that fell by 20% between 2017 and 2018 in construction zones in Texas.

Speed limit increases tied to deaths... from pg 1

Texas can legally drive 85 mph on some roads.

Research found that a 5 mph increase in the maximum speed limit was associated with an 8% increase

in the fatality rate on interstates and freeways - the roads most directly affected by changes to the maximum speed limit - and a 3% increase on other roads.

Deaths caused by drivers running red lights at 10-year high

The number of people killed by drivers running red lights has hit a 10-year high.


In 2017, the latest figures available, 939 people were killed by vehicles blowing through red lights.

It's the highest death toll since 2008 and 28% higher than in 2012.

Two people are killed every day in the U.S. by drivers who don't stop for the signals.

Since 2012 the overall number of highway fatalities rose 10%, far short of the 28% increase in red-light running deaths.

There are more people driving



**2019
IDC SCHEDULE**
(Instructor Development Course)

TDLR reduced the hours for IDC from 24 hours to 16 hours -- which makes it a 2-day class instead of a 3-day.

*Saturday and Sunday
9 a.m. - 6 p.m. both days*

\$100.00

All classes will be held at
USA Headquarters,
8871 Tallwood Drive, Austin
2019
November 16-17
2020
To Be Announced

**2019
HOLIDAY SCHEDULE
USA TRAINING**

USA Training Company will be closed on the following dates:

Oct. 14 (Mon) - Columbus Day
Nov. 11 (Mon) - Veteran's Day
Nov. 28 & 29 (Thurs/Fri)
Thanksgiving
Dec. 24, 25, 26 (Tues, Wed, Thurs)
Christmas

2020

Jan. 1 (Wed.) - New Year's Day
Jan. 20 (Mon) - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Just 11 percent of drivers want autonomous driving technology

Automakers and tech titans are developing autonomous driving technology, but it appears the vast majority of consumers couldn't care less.

While previous studies have shown drivers are wary about the technology, a new report paints an even bleaker picture. According to Consumer Report's latest car safety

survey, just 11% of drivers - who are looking to purchase a new or used vehicle in the next two years - want a model equipped with autonomous driving technology.

While semi-autonomous driving systems promise to improve safety, it appears consumers prefer older technologies such as rearview

cameras, backup sensors and blind spot warning systems. In particular, 51% of respondents said it was important that their next vehicle have a rearview camera or a backup warning system. Blind spot warning systems weren't far behind as 45% of people considered them important



PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

MANDATORY CONTINUING EDUCATION - RETRAIN 2019-2020 SCHEDULE

PLEASE PRINT:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Email: _____ Fax: _____

Driver Safety Instructor Liense # _____ DSI License Expires: _____

Check box for date you plan to attend:

- Oct. 13, 2019 (Sun.) TYLER, China King, 4542 S. Broadway 2:30pm-4:30pm
- Oct. 18, 2019 (Fri.) AUSTIN, 8871 Tallwood Dr. 11 am - 1 pm
- Nov. 16, 2019 (Sat.).....SAN ANTONIO, HEB Transp. Dept., 5103 Rittiman Rd., Bldg. #4 10 am - 12 noon
- Dec. 6, 2019 (Fri.) AUSTIN, 8871 Tallwood Dr. 11 am - 1 pm
- Dec. 9, 2019 (Mon.).....SAN ANGELO, 72 W. College Ave..... 2 pm - 4 pm
- Feb. 7, 2020 (Fri.) AUSTIN, 8871 Tallwood Dr. 11 am - 1 pm
- April 3, 2020 (Fri.) AUSTIN, 8871 Tallwood Dr. 11 am - 1 pm
- April 18, 2020 (Sat.) HOUSTON, Golden Corral Restaurant, 13145 Northwest Frwy. 8:30am-10:30am
- June 5, 2020 (Fri.)..... AUSTIN, 8871 Tallwood Dr. 11 am - 1 pm

Please complete and mail this registration form along with your check for

\$10 payable to "USA" to:

USA, 8871 Tallwood Dr., Austin, TX 78957

Make a copy for your records. Your check will not be deposited until you attend.

Registration forms must be at USA HQ NO LATER THAN 5 WORKING DAYS before the retrain date so that materials can be prepared/shipped and to receive pre-paid registration price.

License Renewals (Fee: \$25)

STEPS FOR USA DSC INSTRUCTOR RENEWAL

- 1) Complete the 1-page Instructor Renewal form received from TDLR. TDLR will mail to the address they have on file for you, so it is important to contact USA with any address, phone or email changes.
- 2) Instructors will receive verification of RETRAIN/Mandatory Continuing Education at the end of the RETRAIN class. Attach the Verification of CE (pink certificate) to your completed Instructor Renewal. TDLR will only process Instructor Renewals with CE Verification attached.
- 3) Attach fee (\$25) payable to TDLR if postmarked before or by expiration date. If after expiration date, refer to fee scale on your renewal form or contact USA if you have questions. You cannot teach if your license is expired.
- 4) Mail to USA, 8871 Tallwood Drive, Austin, TX 78759. *(do NOT mail directly to TDLR).*

- ◆ **Check the expiration date of your USA DSC Instructor license. IMPORTANT: TDLR should mail Instructor Renewal directly to you sixty (60) days prior to your expiration date. If you do not receive a renewal from TDLR, contact USA immediately.**
- ◆ **Submit your Instructor Renewal form with Verification of Continuing Education to USA postmarked NO LATER than license expiration date. Preferably 30-45 days prior to expiration). You can not teach if your license expires -- so plan ahead.**
- ◆ **Keep a copy of your renewal form, check to TDLR and Verification of CE.**

Please call USA at 512-346-2132 with any questions.

<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Expires</u>	<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Expires</u>	<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Expires</u>	<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Expires</u>
Albert, J.W.	8-Nov	Hayes, Wanda	2-Oct	Mullins, Gary	23-Oct	Truong, Justin	8-Dec
Alexander, Laslyn	14-Nov	Hill, Luke	19-Dec	Oladejo, Rotimi	20-Oct	Vasquez, John	13-Nov
Bell, Lowell	14-Dec	Howard, Eric	19-Dec	Patterson, Willie	21-Dec	Walch, Graylon	12-Oct
Cardenas, Benjamin	11-Dec	Howard, Connie	19-Dec	Pena, Adan	31-Dec	Watson, Don	23-Oct
Chatman, Jake	1-Nov	Isaac, Staffon	1-Nov	Phillips, Ronald	22-Oct	Wilkin, Dawn	5-Nov
Chatman, Donald	30-Nov	Joshi, Ilaben	24-Oct	Postert, Brenda	25-Oct	Williams, Lewis	30-Oct
Crocker, Jill	19-Oct	Kennedy, Amanda	5-Nov	Quiroz, Anthony	14-Nov	Williams, Thomas	19-Nov
Darter, David	31-Dec	Khan, Aisha	19-Oct	Rabelo, Juan	31-Oct	Young, Brenda	7-Oct
Decker, Sue	19-Dec	Khan, Altaf	3-Nov	Reyes, Juan	19-Oct		
Esikhathi, Carolyn	10-Dec	Kibble, Rodney	29-Nov	Rivers, Chris	3-Nov		
Esikhathi, Tom	10-Dec	Le, Tina	1-Nov	Salazar, Edith	3-Dec		
Evans, Valina	19-Oct	Le, Huy	14-Nov	Segura, Donna	12-Oct		
Ganiyu, Yesir	31-Oct	Matthews, John	31-Dec	Solis, Juan	5-Dec		
Garcia, Frank	19-Oct	McCary, Vance	7-Oct	Sullivan, Michael	27-Oct		
Glady, Burdett	28-Nov	Mizell, Sandra	31-Oct	Sweeney, Paul	4-Nov		

EMERGENCY CONTACT

In the event USA is experiencing trouble with our phone network, scan your requests and email to

lbagwell@usatraining.com

State warns distracted driving still a problem


Approximately one in five crashes in Texas involves distracted driving, which continues to be a problem in the state, even after a state law banned texting and driving in 2017. The statewide texting while driving ban could be helping a little. According to recent data, the number of crashes involving distracted driving in Texas decreased by 6% when comparing the 12-month periods before and after the statewide texting-while-driving ban took effect on Sept. 1, 2017.

USA TRAINING COMPANY INC.

8871 Tallwood Dr.

CEO

Janis Helm Cartwright



President

Phil H. Ward

Staff

◆ Lorie Bagwell ◆ Sue Decker ◆ Sarah Jacobs

Phone: 512-346-2132 ◆ Fax: 512-346-0431