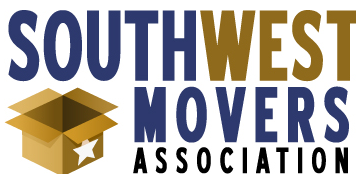


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MOVEFAX

April 9, 2010

Dear SMA Member:

The MOVEFax is a bulletin of immediate information for SMA members. To the extent possible, staff attempts to provide meaningful news and ideas to keep the membership informed, however, news from the members of acquisitions, promotions, awards, etc., are welcome and they will be published as space is available.

We are expecting a good turnout for our meeting in Sugar Land next week and the staff looks forward to seeing you there.

Thanks,

Dorothy Brooks
Director of Operations

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MAY - National Moving Month

We're just a few weeks away from National Moving Month! May, as you know, kicks off the traditional moving season. Early reports from around the state indicate that 2010 will be a greatly improved economic picture for our industry. You are encouraged to review your supplies of moving forms and place orders now for any that will require imprinting. Relate your business of moving to the next article about the census.

Census - So What Does It Mean for Texas?

Businesses and states have a lot at stake in the accuracy of the current census. The results of the census will result in altering the flow of about \$475 billion in annual federal aid for highways, airports, Medicaid, housing, and federally backed business loans and more. Note

that each gain or loss of 500,000 residents is worth about \$1.5 billion to a state. Texas is projected to be the biggest winner. Growing energy, high-tech and other industries in the Lone Star state will result in a gain of more than 2 million residents when the final count is on the books. Bottom line, that means four more seats in the U.S. House of Representatives, and \$6 billion a year more in funds coming to Texas from Washington.

TCEQ Idling Reminder

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality rules prohibit any person in the affected locality from permitting the primary propulsion engine of a heavy-duty motor vehicle to idle for more than five consecutive minutes when the vehicle is not in motion. This rule is effective from April 1 through October 31. The exceptions to the rules are:

- (1) a motor vehicle that has a gross vehicle weight rating of 14,000 pounds or less;
- (2) a motor vehicle forced to remain motionless because of traffic conditions over which the operator has no control;
- (3) a motor vehicle being used by the United States military, national guard, or reserve forces, or as an emergency or law enforcement motor vehicle;
- (4) the primary propulsion engine of a motor vehicle providing a power source necessary for mechanical operation, other than propulsion, and/or passenger compartment heating, or air conditioning;
- (5) the primary propulsion engine of a motor vehicle being operated for maintenance or diagnostic purposes;
- (6) the primary propulsion engine of a motor vehicle being operated solely to defrost a windshield;
- (7) the primary propulsion engine of a motor vehicle that is being used to supply heat or air conditioning necessary for passenger comfort and safety in vehicles intended for commercial or public passenger transportation, or passenger transit operations, in which case idling up to a maximum of 30 minutes is allowed;
- (8) the primary propulsion engine of a motor vehicle being used to provide air conditioning or heating necessary for employee health or safety while the employee is using the vehicle to perform an essential job function related to roadway construction or maintenance;
- (9) the primary propulsion engine of a motor vehicle being used as airport ground support equipment; or
- (10) the owner of a motor vehicle rented or leased to a person that operates the vehicle and is not employed by the owner.

For a list of areas enforcing these regulations, visit: www.tceq.com

Reminder: New CSA 2010 Web Site Up April 12

FMCSA is launching a Data Review Website that will allow the industry to see what individual carriers' safety data are going to look like using the anticipated changes in CSA 2010.

On April 12, 2010, the website will be made available to the industry. Access to this website will be available through the CSA 2010 website (<http://csa2010.fmcsa.dot.gov/>), through a link on the SafeStat online website (<http://ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/SafeStat/SafeStatMain.asp>), and possibly a link from the FMCSA Portal.

DMV Files Dispute Resolution with International

Registration Plan

The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles is asking the International Registration Plan's Dispute Resolution Committee to rule on the Texas token trailer registration issue. The meeting date is May 11, 2010. The question to be resolved is as follows:

Resident Texas businesses are required by Texas state statute to register their semi-trailing equipment in Texas. They are, instead, being allowed to register these trailers in other jurisdictions ("non-nexus Jurisdictions") where the business has no apparent presence or nexus. Several jurisdictions have been identified as allowing this practice, for example: Oklahoma, Maine and Idaho. At issue is whether these jurisdictions may register trailers with no apparent presence in or nexus to the registration jurisdiction.

CSA 2010 Seminars Coming to a City Near You

TMTA in partnership with Great West Casualty, will present key information and recommendations relating to CSA 2010 at six locations across Texas. **SMA members are invited and encouraged to attend these seminars.** They will cover the following information:

- The Seven Basics
- Managing Your Score
- Driver Compliance
- CSA 2010 vs. SafeStat
- CSA 2010 Strategies

The cost to attendee is:
\$55 -- TMTA Members
\$75 -- Non-members

The seminar locations are:
AMARILLO May 11
Amarillo College
1310 F Avenue, Building S
Amarillo, Texas 79111
806.335.4209

ODESSA May 12
MCM Elegante Hotel
5200 East University
Odessa, Texas 79762
432.368.5885

LAREDO May 18
Embassy Suites Laredo
110 Calle Del Norte
Laredo, Texas 78041
956.723.9100

SAN ANTONIO May 19
Omni San Antonio Hotel at the Colonnade
9821 Colonnade Boulevard

San Antonio, Texas 78230
210.691.8888

EL PASO May 25
Camino Real Hotel El Paso
101 South El Paso Street
El Paso, Texas 79901
915.534.3000

TYLER May 27
Tyler Rose Garden Center
420 South Rose Park Drive
Tyler, Texas 75702
903.531.1213

Registration will be available on the TMTA site at: www.tmta.com

Flexibility in HOS Called for at Listening Session

Trucking industry executives and drivers who testified at an hours-of-service "listening" session at the Mid-America Trucking Show said the current rule doesn't give drivers the flexibility to take a nap when they become fatigued. A need for flexibility with the HOS rule was the biggest concern expressed by those who attended the listening session moderated by Anne Ferro, FMCSA administrator.

Rogue Mover Alert!

If you recognize any of the following companies and/or websites, please let us know so we can assist the NYSMWA, AMSA, & the FMCSA in bringing closure to this unscrupulous operator:

The Movers Group <http://www.themoversgroup.com/>
New York Movers <http://www.newyork-movers.net/about-us.html>
Moving Van Line Inc. <http://www.moving-van-lines.com/contact.php>
Express Moving <http://expressmovingcompanies.com/about-us-test>
Authorized Movers <http://www.authorizedmovers.com/>
Moving Guide <http://www.movingguide.net>

They have racked up 55 consumer complaints in the last 36 months. They are all connected by a common person: Ohad Guzi as manager. If you have any information on any of these companies, please contact SMA immediately.

HIRE Act Makes Tax Credits Available to Employers

USA-based employers that hire workers who were previously unemployed or only working part time are now able to claim two new tax benefits as a result of the Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment (HIRE) Act enacted into law on March 18, 2010. Companies that hire unemployed workers after February 3, 2010 and before January 1, 2011, may qualify for a 6.2 percent payroll tax incentive, which in effect exempts them from their share of Social Security taxes on wages paid to these workers after March 18, 2010. This reduced tax withholding will have no effect on the employee's future Social Security benefits, and employers would still need to withhold the employee's 6.2-percent share of Social Security taxes, as well as income taxes. The employer and employee's shares of Medicare taxes would also still apply to these wages. When employers file their 2011 income tax returns they may claim an additional general business tax credit, up to \$1,000 per worker, for each

worker retained for at least a year. The payroll tax benefit for eligible newly-hired employees applies to businesses, agricultural employers, tax-exempt organizations and public colleges and universities. However, household employers cannot claim this new tax benefit.

Electronic On-Board Recorders for Hours-of-Service Compliance

U.S. DOT's Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration issued a new rule that will require interstate commercial truck and bus companies with serious patterns of hours-of-service (HOS) violations to install electronic on-board recorders (EOBRs) in all their vehicles.

Under the EOBR final rule, carriers found with 10 percent or more HOS violations during a compliance review will be required to install EOBRs in all their vehicles for a minimum of two years. The rule also provides new technical performance standards for EOBRs installed in commercial motor vehicles, including requirements for recording the date, time and location of a driver's duty status.

Additionally, carriers that voluntarily adopt EOBRs will receive relief from some of FMCSA's requirements to retain HOS supporting documents, such as toll receipts used to check the accuracy of driver logbooks.

Effective Date: This final rule is effective on June 4, 2010.

Compliance Date: Motor carriers must comply with this final rule by June 4, 2012.

CVSA Workshop April 19-22

Sign up today for the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) Workshop in San Antonio on April 19-22. The workshop will give attendees an opportunity to assess processes and procedures that will improve commercial motor vehicle and overall highway transportation safety. To register, visit: www.cvsa.org

2010 CVSA Workshop
5th Annual FMCSA MCSAP Leadership Conference
North American Cargo Securement Harmonization
Public Forum
April 19-22, 2010
Hyatt Regency San Antonio
123 Losoya Street
San Antonio, TX 78205
Phone: 210-222-1234

Reminder: TMTA Austin Chapter Meeting April 21

SMA members are invited to join the TMTA Austin Chapter for a meeting on Wednesday, April 21 at the Catfish Parlour on 4705 East Ben White in Austin at 11:30 a.m.

Attendees will have the opportunity to hear from guest speaker: Carol Davis, Director of TxDOT Motor Carrier Division.

To register, visit: www.tmta.com

Reminder: TMTA Metroplex Chapter Meeting April 22

SMA members are invited to join the TMTA Metroplex Chapter for a meeting on April 22 at Cacharel Restaurant in Arlington. Attendees will hear from honored guests representing the Dallas and Fort Worth areas.

Special Guests:

Chairman John Carona, Chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee (Dallas)

Senator Wendy Davis, Senate Transportation Committee member (Fort Worth)

The meeting will begin at 11:30 a.m. Attendees should register for the event by visiting:

www.tmta.com

Winter/Spring Member Meetings are Next Week

Don't forget the Winter/Spring Member Meetings in Sugar Land, Texas is next week!

The GHMA Golf Tournament will kick off the gathering on April 14. Meetings will follow on April 15 and 16. The meetings are open to all SMA members. **If you have not registered yet, please do so at: www.southwestmovers.org**

SMA Foundation Scholarship Applications Due May 14

The SMA Foundation application for scholarships is posted on the SMA website. The SMA Trustees voted at their September meeting to accept mid-term transcripts with applications. By accepting mid-term transcripts, students will have more time to obtain their letters of recommendation, draft their letters of intent and SMA trustees will have more time to review applications so that funds can be forwarded more timely for the fall registrations. Members who have students (family, employees and employee families) who will be headed for colleges and universities at the end of the current school year are asked to encourage their students to file their application for SMA Scholarships. Download an application at www.mytexasmover.com.

The new deadline reply date for submitting scholarship applications is May 14, 2010, so ask your school for a sealed copy of your mid-term transcript now to send with your application. Prior recipients of a grant from the Foundation who are still in school are urged to file a new application to be considered again.

SMA Event Calendar for 2010

SMA/GHMA Combined Meeting and Golf Tournament: April 14-16, Marriott Town Square Hotel, Sugar Land, TX

National Council of Moving Associations: June 8-10, St. Louis, MO

Summer Membership Meeting: July 11-13, Embassy Suites, Hot Springs, AR

Annual Membership Conference: Sept. 22-24, Lost Pines Resort and Spa, Bastrop, TX

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www.southwestmovers.org

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