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MOVEFAX

September 3, 2010

Dear SMA Member:

SMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

PLEASE NOTE: The group rate with the hotel for the conference ends Tuesday of next week, September 7.

PLEASE NOTE: The registration fee to attend SMA's conference in Lost Pines September 22-24, increases on September 7, Tuesday of next week.

Register with SMA and reserve with the Hotel NOW!

Free education sessions on Wednesday, September 22 are: Power of the Internet, Search Engines and Web Sites; Going from Good to Great; and CSA 2010. You do not have to pay to attend only the education sessions. Please do, however, let us know that you are coming so that we will have plenty of handouts.

If you come for the education sessions, and decide to spend the rest of the day with us for the Heritage Award Luncheon and the SMA Foundation activities that evening, we have per event registrations available, where again, you do not have to commit to the entire conference, only for the events you want to attend.

Join Us! Along with SMA associate members, TxDMV will have a table and will be glad to visit with you. Move For Hunger will have a table and will be happy to tell you how your company can help provide food for people in your community.

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Dorothy Brooks
Director of Operations

Reminder: Early Bird Registration Ends Sept. 7 for SMA's Annual Conference

On September 7, the fee to register to attend the annual conference in Lost Pines goes up! Register with SMA and reserve your hotel room at Lost Pines before September 7. The registration form and hotel reservation information both are posted on the SMA web site: www.mytexasmover.com Don't wait. Do it now.

SMA Silent Auction

SMA members have the opportunity to support the Foundation. Please consider making a cash donation for the purchase of silent auction items. The auction will be held during the SMA annual conference. Checks in the amount of \$25 or more, should be made payable to SMA Foundation with a note on the subject line: "Silent Auction" and mailed c/o SMA, P.O. Box 684845, Austin, TX 78768-4845. Donations will be acknowledged for tax purposes.

Move for Hunger - SMA Member Addition

Elephant Moving and Storage, Austin, is the newest SMA member to partner with Move for Hunger. You will be able to find out more about this great program for your company and for your community at the SMA annual conference, September 22-24. Move for Hunger will have a booth and the founder/organizer, Adam Lowy, will be there to answer all your questions.

1,400,000 Textbooks Moved By Texas Moving

Between June 7 through August 20, Texas Moving (TMC), an SMA member in Richardson, delivered 900,000 textbooks to 239 campuses of Dallas Independent School District (DISD), and picked up more than 500,000 textbooks for return to the district's warehouse.

TMC provided 45 men and eight bobtail trucks daily to handle the task. TMC received the books from the publisher, quantities were verified, each box was opened and each book was stamped with an identifying number, then reboxed and palletized for delivery to the proper campus.

Ms. Tommi Lyle, M/WBE Specialist for DISD stated "It is always great to work with Texas Moving. They definitely know what DISD needs on the textbook project."

TxDOT Unveils 100 Most Congested Roadways

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) unveiled an updated list of Texas' 100 most congested roadway segments Wednesday. In developing the update, the state used actual traffic speed data to calculate delay, rather than estimations based on traffic volume used

in the previous list. Parameters for roadway segment length were also adjusted to better capture congested points in the transportation system.

As a result of the increased accuracy of the data and methodology behind the list, several roadway segments have shifted rankings on the list.

The top 100 list includes the state highway system, and many city, county or toll road segments. Additionally, it now considers both weekday and weekend congestion levels to provide a congestion ranking based on delay experienced all days of the week. Nationally recognized congestion experts with the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) at Texas A&M University collaborated with TxDOT to develop the new list and improved methodology.

The updated 100 most congested roadways list and additional information about methodology and plans for congestion mitigation are available by visiting www.txdot.gov

Federal Legislation Needed for More Truck Parking

Two accomplices in the killing of truck driver Jason Rivenburg for \$7 were sentenced to 30 days in jail and five years' probation. The widow and single parent to three young children, Hope Rivenburg, decried the sentences as too soft and supports Federal legislation that could make it safer for truck drivers when they pull over to rest. The American Trucking Associations (ATA) supported and applauded the legislation, known as Jason's Law, from Rep. Paul Tonko, D-N.Y. and U.S. Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., which would implement a pilot program to address shortages in safe parking for commercial motor vehicles on the National Highway System. "Professional truck drivers need to have access to safe, legal parking so they can get the rest they need to deliver the goods we rely on," ATA Senior Vice President Dave Osiecki was quoted in the July 2010 Safety Bulletin. "Without access to adequate parking at safety rest areas, drivers must often settle on less safe parking locations like a shoulder or a ramp. They should not be put in these dangerous situations."

FMCSA Fines Moving Van Lines, Inc. \$281,000 for Violating Multiple Federal Regulations

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration announced \$281,000 in fines against Moving Van Lines, Inc. of Tampa, Florida for violating multiple federal regulations including holding consumers' property hostage and requiring moving fees in excess of the original binding contractual agreement.

FMCSA issued these citations and fines against Moving Van Lines, Inc. following an extensive investigation of consumer complaints against the moving company. FMCSA issued a final order on August 16, 2010, and found the company in violation of 28 counts of failing to relinquish possession of a household goods shipment (hostage load), and one count of collecting fees more than the original binding estimate.

FMCSA encourages consumers to file any complaints involving household goods or other commercial motor carriers through FMCSA's nationwide complaint hotline at 888-368-7238 (1-888 DOT-SAFT) and to visit the National Consumer Complaints Database at <http://nccdb.fmcsa.dot.gov>.

SOURCE Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

Read more: <http://www.miamiherald.com/2010/08/30/1799049/fmcsa-fines-moving-van-lines-inc.html#ixzz0yCfPVoK9>

TxDMV's New Rights & Responsibilities Brochure

TxDMV has notified that their new Rights and Responsibilities When You Move in Texas brochure, dated July 2010 which replaces the R & R brochure last updated August 2006, is now on their web site and available to download. They have also updated and posted a new checklist for consumers to use when selecting a mover.

SMA is negotiating with our printer on costs for the form to be able to offer it customized to members. Because TxDMV is offering the form using colored ink, it is coming in at a greater cost to SMA, and we are looking into options there. You may place orders now by emailing the company information you want imprinted and the number to print to Ida@tmta.com. Remember, custom imprinting is subject to a minimum order of 500.

If you want to download the new TxDMV consumer check list or the new R&R brochure, go to: http://www.txdmv.gov/whatyouneed/publications/household_movers.htm

TxDMV has also posted a Spanish version of the R & R brochure on their web site which may be downloaded. At this time, SMA does not plan to offer the preprinted or customized Spanish version, but will do so if there is sufficient call for it.

New Love's Truck Tire Care Center Opening in Texas

Love's Truck Tire Care is opening in Three Rivers, Texas. A reminder that a benefit of SMA's membership and its partnership with TMTA is the Love's Fuel program! To learn more about this special discount program for fuel and Michelin tires please call TMTA at 512-478-2541.

Love's #342
I-37, Exit 72
2645 S. Highway 37
Three Rivers, TX 78071
Phone: (361) 786-2523
Fax: (361) 786-4749

Causation Study Looks at Truck Accidents

Earlier this summer, the European Commission and the International Road Transport Union published the European Truck Accident Causation study, which identifies causes of truck-related accidents. They found that human error was the cause of 85.2 percent of the more than 600 studied cases. When human error was to blame, the passenger vehicle driver was at fault 75 percent of the time, with the truck driver to blame 25 percent of the time. The main causes for accidents included speeding, failure to observe intersection rules and improperly made lane changes.

Webinar - Pilot States CSA 2010 Experience

SMA and TMATA are offering members and nonmembers an opportunity to hear from motor carriers in CSA 2010 pilot states and learn from their unique experience and perspective. This is a live webinar with a question and answer period at the end of the session. You won't want to miss the insight and discussion on real experiences with CSA 2010.

September 8, 2010

1:00 - 4:00 pm CST

\$125 member (TMATA & SMA)

\$225 nonmember

Register online today at www.csa-exp.com

Agenda for 93rd Annual Conference

Wednesday, September 22

- 7:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m. SMA Registration
- 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Breakfast/Education Session #1: Religious Freedoms in the Workplace
- Hiram Sasser, Liberty Legal Institute
- 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Associate Table Top Move-In
- 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Education Session #2: Power of the Internet, Search Engines and Websites
- Sean Burchell, Comsite International, Inc.
- 10:30 - 10:45 a.m. Morning Refreshment Break
- 10:45 - 11:45 a.m. Education Session #3: Going from Good to Great
- Bobby Albert and Jason Turner, Albert Moving & Storage
- Noon - 1:00 p.m. Heritage Award Luncheon Honoring Richard Willis
- 1:15 - 2:45 p.m. Education Session #4: CSA 2010 - Scott Sullins, Great West Casualty Company
- 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. Associate Table Top Move-In
- 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting
- 5:00 - 5:30 p.m. Welcome Reception
- 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. Dinner on Your Own
- 8:00 - 11:00 p.m. SMA Foundation Casino Night, 4th Annual Texas Hold 'Em Tourney
- SMA Foundation Silent and Live Auctions

Thursday, September 23

- 7:30 - 11:30 a.m. SMA Registration
- 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. Associate Appreciation Breakfast
- 8:45 - 10:00 a.m. General Session featuring Speaker Bev Kearney
- 9:45 - 10:45 a.m. Morning Refreshment Break
- 10:15 - 11:30 a.m. Education Session #5: Moving for the Military and the DP3 Program
- Peggy Wilkens, Stevens Worldwide Van Lines
- Noon - 5:00 p.m. Golf Tournament (Box Lunches Included)
- Noon - 5:00 p.m. Non-Golfer Lunch and Program
- 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. SMA Registration
- 7:00 - 7:30 p.m. Chairman's Reception

7:30 - 10:00 p.m. Chairman's Dinner and Entertainment featuring Jan McInnis

Friday, September 24

7:30 a.m. - Noon SMA Registration
7:30 - 8:30 a.m. Breakfast
8:30 - 9:15 a.m. SMA Foundation Meeting
8:30 - 10:30 a.m. Morning Refreshment Break
9:15 - 10:30 a.m. Membership & Board of Directors Meeting
10:30 - 11:00 a.m. Associate Table Top Tear Down

2011 Moving and Trucking Day at the Capitol

Moving and Trucking Day at the Texas State Capitol has been set for Feb. 16, 2011. SMA committees and board will meet on the 15. This is a great opportunity to visit with your elected official during the 2011 Legislative Session. Mark your calendar and make plans to attend.

SMA Event Calendar for 2010 - 2011

September 22-24 - Annual Conference & Trade Show, Lost Pines Resort, Lost Pines, TX
October 27 - Austin Board of Realtors Trade Show, Austin, TX
February 16, 2011 - Moving & Trucking Day at the Texas Capitol

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