



A Newsletter For Our Members Where Safety Is Our Primary Concern!

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The Alabama Law Enforcement Agency is here to help

The Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA) website is a wonderful way to help motor carriers perform several online functions. It is user-friendly and a quick way to verify a driver's status and medical information.

The federal regulations require drivers of commercial motor vehicles to self-certify the type of operation they're engaged in. All Class A, B, or C drivers must submit this affidavit. The ALEA website allows motor carriers to self-certify a driver and submit an affidavit online.



CDL Drivers must also provide the State with a valid medical examiner's certificate (DOT physical card). The ALEA website allows motor carriers to verify the status of a driver's medical card. Each time a driver receives a new medical card, the motor carrier is required to obtain an updated motor vehicle record (MVR) to reflect the status of the medical certificate. Utilizing the ALEA website can save time and money by allowing motor carriers to verify the driver's self-certification and the status of a driver's medical card before obtaining an updated MVR.

The process is as follows:

- Obtain a DOT physical by a certified medical examiner.
- Check the national registry list to verify the medical doctor is certified.
- Self-certify or verify driver's operational class online.
- Verify DOT physical is updated by the State online.
- Obtain a new MVR which will reflect the updated medical information.

<u>www.alea.gov</u> Quick Links / Driver License / Division Links / CDL self-certification / View submitted affidavit or medical info

<u>https://nationalregistry.fmcsa.dot.gov</u> Drivers/Carriers / Advanced search / Enter name or national registry number from the driver's physical card

WE ARE GROWING AGAIN AT THE ATA FUND!

The ATA Fund family is growing again! It is with great pleasure we announce the arrival of Mike Zucco, CIC, to our team effective July 10, 2017. Mike is well-known throughout Alabama, where he has worked his entire 23-year career serving agents and clients in our great state. Mike will add a new dimension for the ATA Fund in the position of Director - Business Development. His cumulative experience and professional expertise will help the Fund grow and prosper by focusing on membership expansion. Mike has worked in the insurance industry since 1994 and spent the last 18 years at one of Alabama's largest self-insured workers' compensation group funds.

Mike is an active member of the Society of Certified Insurance Counselors (CIC), a Director and past President of the Insurance Marketing Association of Alabama (IMAA) and serves on the Self Insurance Institute of America Workers' Compensation Committee (SIIA). Mike is a 1986 graduate of the University of Alabama at Birmingham with a Bachelor of Science in Business. Mike and his fiancé, Melissa Smith, reside in Birmingham, where they enjoy the outdoors and spending time together.

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Shop Safety – Improving Pit Safety

There are numerous ATAWCF members that have oil changing pits in their shop area. Many WC hazards exist from entering. Some of these include fire/explosion hazards while cleaning pit(s), eye and head injuries and falls into the service pits.

A recent flash fire/explosion occurred at a dealership where 4 individuals were critically injured when using highly-flammable solvents to clean the oil change pit. These solvents are heavier than air and had accumulated in the pit. Unfortunately for those employees, an ignition source (which has yet to be determined) was introduced and ignited the vapors causing the flash fire/explosion. Only a work culture and atmosphere that places a high value on safety will instill discipline in the shop's crew. There's simply no substitute for frequent and detailed safety training for all shop employees.

Take a look at the below safety reminders when working in/around garage pits:

- Wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment
- Check pit for presence of flammable or other hazardous vapors.
- Remove all flammable/combustible materials from pit.
- Ensure that the ventilation system is working efficiently.
- Place vehicle so there is room to get out of pit in an emergency.
- Set chocks to keep vehicle from moving.
- Use only explosion-proof lights. Ensure that light globes are not broken or missing.
- Use pneumatic (air-powered) or explosion-protected tools as a safety precaution even though the pit has been checked for flammable vapors.
- Do not drain a fuel tank over or near a pit. Vapors from gasoline and paint solvents are heavier than air.
- Cover pit when not in use with solid, well-fitting boards or install guardrails on all sides of pit. Replace any guardrails that are damaged.



NO!!!! PIT NOT COVERED



YES!!! PIT PROPERLY PROTECTED