News Laws Effective January 1, 2019

HB 4332 (Public Act 100-0811) Veteran Designation on the DL
This makes a technical modification to the procedure to have a veteran designation noted on an Illinois driver’s license or identification card.

HB 4377 (Public Act 100-672) Rear Facing Child Seats
Any person transporting a child who is under the age of 2 years shall be responsible for properly securing the child in a rear-facing child restraint system, unless the child weighs 40 or more pounds or is 40 or more inches tall.

HB 4472 (Public Act 100-0828) Mandatory Insurance
Vehicles registered outside the State of Illinois but operating in Illinois are required to have liability insurance coverage and shall carry proof of such liability insurance within the vehicle.

HB 4554 (Public Act 100-1053) DUI Aggravating Factor
An aggravating factor in sentencing of a DUI defendant includes driving a vehicle in the wrong direction at the time of the arrest/crash.

HB 5143 and HB 5632 (Public Acts 100-0770 and 100-0962) Dutch Reach
Drivers are encouraged to utilize the Dutch Reach method of opening driver’s side doors when exiting a vehicle to avoid colliding with a passing bicyclist. Two test questions concerning bicycle safety and safe vehicle interaction with bicycles are to be included on the required written test.

SB 2285 (Public Act 100-0702) Disability Parking Placard for Non-Illinois Residents
The Secretary of State may issue a one-time Illinois disability parking placard to any non-resident who is temporarily residing in Illinois due to a national disaster as declared by the federal government. The temporary disability parking placard shall be valid for a period not to exceed 6 months.

SB 3148 (Public Act 100-0803) Two-year Restricted Driving Permit
A Restricted Driving Permit for an Illinois driver with a revoked driver’s license may be issued for two years (rather than one year).

SB 3241 (Public Act 100-0734) Covered Farm Vehicles Designation for Special Plate
A qualifying vehicle may choose to have a covered farm designation added to the vehicle’s registration even if the registration is a special plate designation.