

From medical certification to a cell phone ban, the Nebraska State Patrol (NSP) Carrier Enforcement Division will again host informational meetings in towns across Nebraska to provide updated information on the federal motor carrier safety and hazardous material regulations.

The meetings will include information on the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA), Compliance, Safety, Accountability (CSA) program.

Implemented in December 2010, the CSA program monitors a motor carrier's on-the-road performance, and implemented new penalties for unsafe driving behavior.

"There have been several updates that should be of interest to all drivers and operators of a commercial motor vehicle, including a ban on cell phones and texting," said Captain Gerry Krolkowski, Carrier Enforcement Division Commander. "With all the changes, we would encourage those individuals who have attended in the past, to attend one of the six meetings scheduled for 2013."

Information will also be provided regarding the law which requires holders of a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) to provide the Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles with a current copy of their medical examiners certificate, as well as the revised "Hours of Service" rules.

Two of the six meetings will be held in Grand Island during Husker Harvest Days, allowing individuals not only in that general area to attend, but also those who travel to participate in this annual event.

The meetings should be attended by anyone who operates any of the following vehicles:

- A pickup pulling a trailer (over 10,000 lbs. combined weight or gross combined weight rating).
- A pickup or truck weighting over 10,000 lbs. or gross vehicle weight rating over 10,000 lbs.
- A pickup, trailer, truck or semi requiring a class A, B, C, Commercial Driver's License (CDL).
- Any motor vehicle transporting hazardous material of any quantity.
- Any farm truck displaying farm plates and registered for more than 16 tons.
- Any passenger carrying vehicle designed or used to transport 8 or more passengers, including the driver for compensation.
- Any passenger carrying vehicle designed or used to transport 15 passengers, including the driver and not used to transports passengers for compensation.

The schedule of NSP Carrier Enforcement Division town meetings is as follows:

City □ Date and Time □ Location

Grand Island—Sept. 10, 7 to 10 p.m. at Midtown Holiday Inn, 2503 South Locust Street, Grand Island.

Grand Island—Sept. 11, 7 to 10 p.m. at Midtown Holiday Inn, 2503 South Locust Street, Grand Island.

North Platte—Oct. 7, 7 to 10 p.m. at Holiday Inn Express, 300 Holiday Inn Frontage Road, North Platte

Scottsbluff—Oct. 8, 7 to 10 p.m. at Harms Advanced Technology Center, 2620 College Park, Scottsbluff.

West Point—Oct. 15, 7 to 10 p.m. at Nielsen Community Center, 200 Anna Stalp Avenue, West Point.

Lincoln—Oct. 16, 7 to 10 p.m. at Lancaster Event Center, Business Center, Nebraska Room, 4100 North 84th Street, Lincoln.

No registration required. Questions concerning the town meetings or groups interested in

holding a town meeting should contact the NSP Carrier Enforcement Division at (402) 471-0105.