



**TO: ABA Operator Members**

**FROM: President & CEO Peter Pantuso**

**DATE: October 20, 2009**

**RE: DOT Announces Driver Pre-Employment Screening Program**

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The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) announced last week that it will spearhead a new Driver Pre-Employment Screening Program allowing commercial bus companies to access driver inspection and crash records as part of the hiring process.

ABA has been advocating such a program for some time, and staunchly supports the initiative because it will help bus operators select qualified drivers by enacting provisions that help identify those prospective drivers who have less-than-exemplary records.

DOT Secretary LaHood cited safety as the key factor behind the proposal, saying, "Making this information more transparent will make our roads and highways safer for everyone." By using this information during the hiring process, potential drivers will have additional time to verify the data and correct any possible problems, as long as they give written consent for their records to be released.

Currently, commercial driver safety records are available to federal and state law enforcement officials, and accessible to drivers through the Freedom of Information Act. Once the program is launched, safety records will be available to motor carriers regardless of state or jurisdiction.

The Driver Pre-Employment Screen Program will be run by the FMCSA's Motor Carrier Management Information System (MCMIS).

As always, please feel free to call me at 202-218-7229 or email me at [ppantuso@buses.org](mailto:ppantuso@buses.org) if you have any questions.