



September 3, 2020

Welcome to the PSATS Morning News.

Missed yesterday's PSATS Morning News? No problem! A [PSATS Morning News Library](#) is available online for your viewing pleasure!

We're excited about this new concept and want to hear what you think. Email comments and suggestions to morningnews@psats.org.

Township Video News



As we enter the homestretch of the 2020 Census, we highlight a new PSATS initiative aimed at boosting local response rates. Hint: Mark your calendar for September 17. Also, [click here](#) to catch up on previous Questions of the Week. (1:48)

Latest News

[Clarification on Payroll Tax Deferral](#)

The Q&As available on the COVID-19 resource page at psats.org provides the latest clarification on the presidential memorandum authorizing the deferment of payments of the employee portion of Social Security taxes. [Read full story.](#)

[Data Shows Roundabouts Reduce Fatalities, Crashes](#)

The state Department of Transportation has released data for 22 roundabouts on state routes at intersections that were previously stop- or signal-controlled. [Read full story.](#)

[PennDOT Extends Expiration Dates for CDL Licenses](#)

The state Department of Transportation has extended expiration dates for commercial driver's licenses and commercial learner's permits through September 30, 2020. [Read full story.](#)

[LCB Awards Grants to Reduce Underage, Dangerous Drinking](#)

The Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board has awarded \$2.8 million to 84 entities, including municipalities and law enforcement organizations, for efforts to reduce underage and dangerous alcohol consumption. Recipients include several townships and township or regional police departments. [Click here](#) for the list of recipients.

[State Police Liquor Control Officers Issue Violation Notices and Warnings](#)

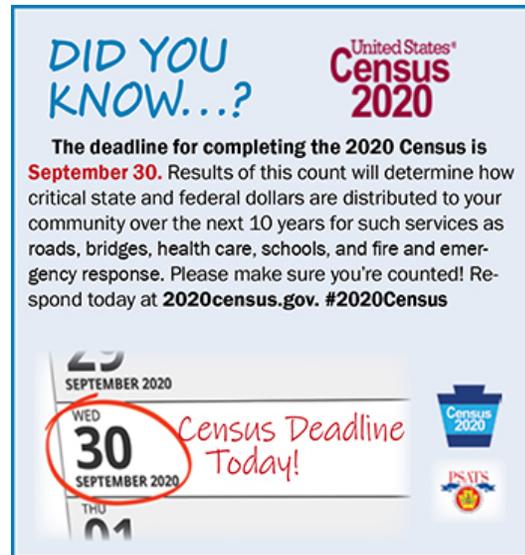
Pennsylvania State Police liquor control enforcement officers visited 3,496 licensed liquor establishments from Wednesday, August 26, through Tuesday, September 1, to ensure that businesses are abiding by COVID-19 mitigation requirements that include social distancing, masking, and other health and safety requirements of the Liquor Code. [Read full story.](#)

The Final Push to be Counted in the 2020 Census Begins!

With September here, the nation is entering the final weeks to get everyone counted in the 2020 Census by the September 30 deadline. As part of this final push, the Census Bureau has been beefing up census taker visits, email messages, and phone calls to nonresponding households to try to get everyone counted by the new target date. Another paper questionnaire is also being mailed to households in the lowest-responding census tracts.

As the census deadline looms, it's more important than ever for township officials to encourage residents who have not yet responded to do so as soon as possible. To help in this effort, PSATS has created this "Did You Know...?" [box](#) that townships can use in social media posts, in newsletters, on websites, or anywhere they think will help to get the word out about the importance of completing the 2020 Census by the end of September.

You can find additional "Did You Know...?" boxes, including one promoting Constitution Day (September 17) as [Township CENSUS 2020 Response Day](#), on the PSATS website.



DID YOU KNOW...? United States[®] Census 2020

The deadline for completing the 2020 Census is **September 30**. Results of this count will determine how critical state and federal dollars are distributed to your community over the next 10 years for such services as roads, bridges, health care, schools, and fire and emergency response. Please make sure you're counted! Respond today at 2020census.gov. #2020Census

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Legislation & Policy



House Passes Election Reform Legislation

On September 2, the House passed House Bill 2626. This legislation would amend the election code by moving the deadline to apply for a mail-in ballot to 15 days before an election, authorizing counties to start pre-canvassing mail-in ballots three days before an election, clarifying that mail-in and absentee ballots may be returned to your County Board of Elections office, your polling place, your county

courthouse, or sent through the U.S. postal service. HB 2626 would also allow poll workers to work at polling sites in any of Pennsylvania's 67 counties.

This legislation will now move to the Senate for their consideration. The Senate has introduced their own election reform bill, but have indicated that they will review the final bill passed by the House and are willing to work together on these important issues.

The Senate will convene for non-voting session today, September 3.

The Senate is scheduled to return to session on Tuesday September 8th.

House Override Effort Fails

The PA House voted to try and override the Governor's veto of HR 836, a resolution that would end the Governor's COVID-19 disaster declaration of March 6, 2020. The effort failed to garner the 135 votes needed to override the Governor's July veto by a vote of 118-84. The Majority Leader Kerry Benninghoff has kept the effort alive by making a motion to reconsider.

Learn

2020 TEMA Fall Forum - Virtual - 9/17-18/20

This is a separate 2-day virtual event that is designed to meet the educational needs and busy schedules of all those responsible for your municipality's emergency management program, including elected officials, municipal managers, road crew/public works personnel, and emergency management coordinators (EMCs).



This class provides an interactive opportunity to engage in tabletop exercises taught by knowledgeable professionals that reflect real-world experiences and situations you are likely to face. We encourage your emergency management team to attend this interactive and informative session so they can learn new ways of improving your local emergency management program. [Click here](#) to register.

Webinar - Creating An Affordable Retirement Plan - 10/1/20 (MEMBERS ONLY)

The Trustees Insurance Fund, through PSATS, is offering a webinar to provide an introduction to our 457 Plan and help your township officials determine if this is a valuable benefit to offer to the employees. [Click here](#) to register.



**PSATS Trustees Insurance
and Retirement Services**

For full list of webinars and classes please visit <https://learn.psats.org>.



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