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# State of New Hampshire

DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY  
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER  
33 HAZEN DR. CONCORD, NH 03305  
603/271-2791

JOHN J. BARTHELMES  
COMMISSIONER

November 6, 2014

Her Excellency, Governor Margaret Wood Hassan  
and the Honorable Council  
State House  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

### Requested Action

Pursuant to MOP 1200 I. (D), authorize the Department of Safety, Division of State Police to pay annual membership dues of \$5,300.00 to the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) (VC#173369-B001), Greenbelt, MD, for the period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015. Effective upon Governor and Council approval. Funding source: 80% Federal Funds/20% Highway Funds.

Funding is available in the account titled MCSAP Grant:

02-23-23-234015-31060000	Dept. of Safety – Div. of State Police – MCSAP Grant
026-500251	Membership fees/Organizational Dues
Activity Code:	2314MCSP
Amount:	\$5,300.00

### Explanation

Membership in CVSA is critical to the performance of State Police Motor Carrier Troopers' commercial vehicle duties. All State Police Motor Carrier troopers must be certified to perform commercial vehicle inspections and, through the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance, there is a high level of quality and consistency required in order to become certified. Membership also allows the Motor Carrier troopers the opportunity to have direct input into the making and revision of rules and laws for commercial vehicles.

The CVSA is an association of member states, Canada, and Mexico. It works with these governments to improve commercial vehicle safety and promote uniformity in the enforcement of safety regulations and hazardous materials transportation rules, and it establishes a framework for uniformity, compatibility, and reciprocity across the member jurisdictions.

1. *How long has this organization been in existence and how long has this agency been a member of this organization?* The Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) has been in existence since 1980 and New Hampshire Department of Safety has been a member since 1987.

2. *Is there any other organization which provides the same or similar benefits which your agency belongs to?* No

3. *How many other states belong to this organization and is your agency the sole New Hampshire state agency that is a member?* All 50 states and U.S. territories belong to CVSA. We are the sole NH agency to belong as we are the only authorized agency to enforce Federal motor carrier regulations.

4. *How is the dues structure established? (Standard fee for all states, based on population, based on other criteria, etc)* The dues are based on the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's MCSAP Grant award formula for each state.

5. *What benefit does the state receive from participating in this membership?* CVSA establishes uniformity and reciprocity of on-highway enforcement and standardizes the criteria for commercial motor vehicle inspections among all the states, Canadian Provinces, and Mexico. This common criterion for regulation and inspection functions is recognized by the commercial motor vehicle industry and used by law enforcement agencies to place commercial vehicles and drivers out of service for unsafe equipment or operation. The Alliance is also a forum to discuss ways to improve the safety of motor carrier operation through enhanced and improved methods of both highway and terminal inspection of vehicles, drivers and cargo.
6. *Are training or educational/research materials included in the membership? If so, is the cost included? Explain in detail.* CVSA provides the North American Standard Out-of-Service Criteria and training bulletins. In addition, they provide the North American Standard Out-of-Service Criteria for Commercial Highway Vehicles Transporting Transuranics and Highway Route Controlled Quantities of Radioactive Materials and the Level VI Inspection Procedures to conduct these types of inspections. These materials are provided electronically every year included in the membership cost. In addition, CVSA hosts an annual training conference which culminates in a competition that a representative from each state participates in.
7. *Is the membership required to receive any federal grants or required in order to receive or participate in licensing or certification exams? Explain.* The North American Standard Out-of-Service Criteria published by CVSA is the criteria used by NHSP troopers when determining to place safety deficient vehicles and drivers out-of-service, thereby removing them from NH roadways. In order for New Hampshire to maintain voting rights on the criteria published every year, New Hampshire must remain a member.
8. *Is there any travel included with this membership fee? Explain in detail any travel to include the number of employees involved, the number of trips, destination if known and purposes of membership supported trips.* No, there isn't any travel included with the membership.
9. *Which state agency employees are directly involved with this organization? (Indicate if they are members, voting members, committee members, and/or officers of the organization).* Commercial Motor Vehicle Enforcement troopers assigned to State Police Troop G are CVSA members.
10. *Explain in detail any negative impact to the State if the Agency did not belong to this organization.* This membership is imperative to the mission and duties of the State Police Commercial Motor Carrier Enforcement troopers. These troopers must be certified through CVSA to perform commercial motor vehicle inspections inclusive of passenger carriers and hazardous material transportation. Troopers would lack the uniformity and reciprocity across member jurisdictions and lack the authority to enforce safety regulations and inspect commercial vehicles as referenced in Chapter Saf-C 900 Administrative Rules and applicable NH RSAs. Additionally, the membership provides a consistent approach to Commercial Motor Vehicle safety enforcement that is recognized by the motor carrier industry nationwide.

Respectfully submitted,

  
John J. Barthelmes  
Commissioner of Safety



Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance  
 6303 Ivy Ln Ste 310  
 Greenbelt, MD 20770-6319

P: 301.830.6143  
 F: 301.830.6144  
 cvsahq@cvsa.org  
 www.cvsa.org

**Bill To:**

New Hampshire State Police  
 33 Hazen Dr  
 Concord, NH 03305-0011 US

**Invoice**

Invoice Number: 12024  
 Invoice Date: 10/1/2014  
 Invoice Due Date: 10/31/2014

Order Number: 12071

Product	Description	Qty	Unit Price	Total
Level 1 - State/Provincial Member Dues		1.00	\$5,300.00	\$5,300.00
Region I		1.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

**Memo:**

**Customer Message:**

**Total:** \$5,300.00  
**Payments:** \$0.00  
**Last Payment Date:** -  
**Balance Due:** \$5,300.00