

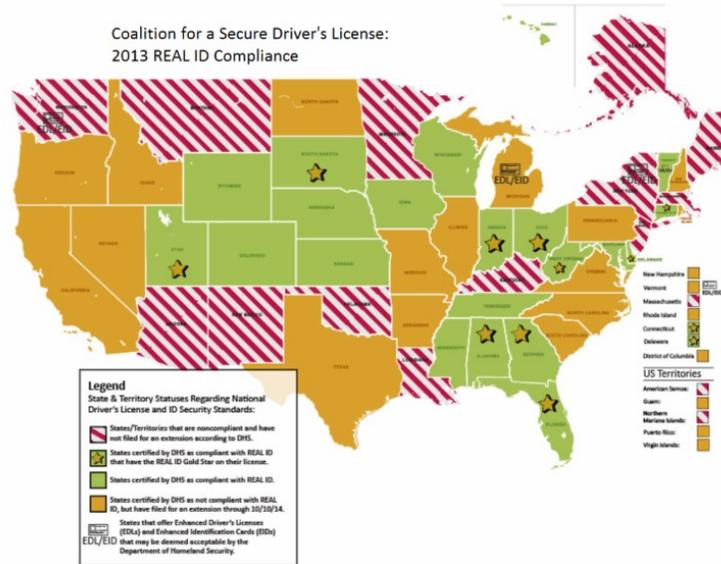


Just How Far has REAL ID Compliance Come? REAL Far.

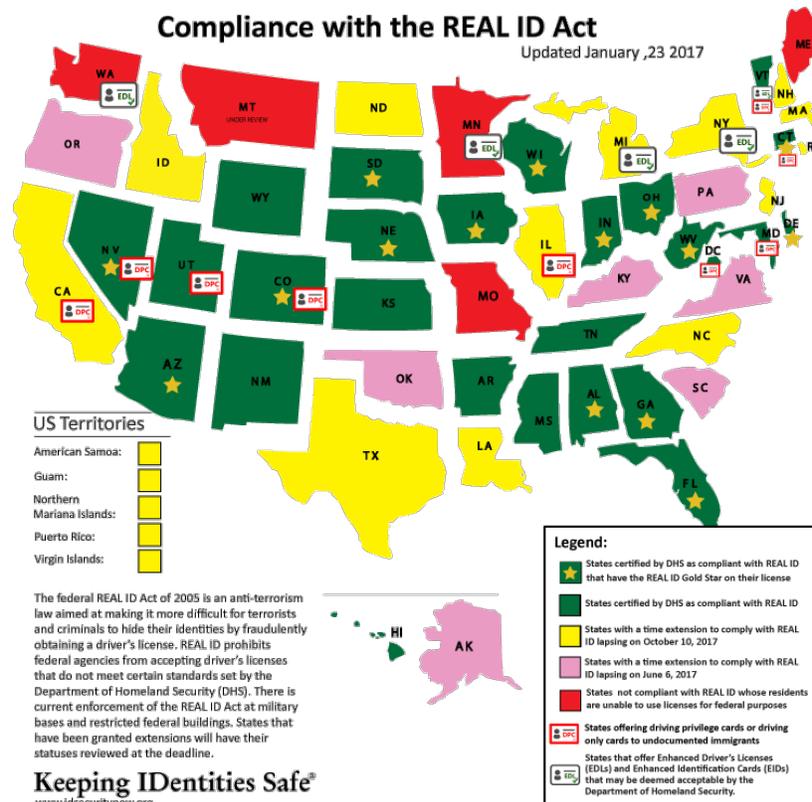
Thanks to a handful of persistent state legislators, some sparse good reporting, a dogged new Homeland Security Secretary, and a lot of hard work on behalf of this organization, states across the country have made incredible progress in complying with the [REAL ID Act of 2005](#). The REAL ID Act is an anti-terrorism law enacted after the 9/11 Commission's recommendation that the Federal Government "set standards for the issuance of sources of identification, such as driver's licenses." It prohibits federal agencies from accepting driver's licenses from states that do not meet standards set by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The vast majority of states were either hesitant or downright opposed to moving toward compliance with REAL ID at first. Just one year after the regulations came out, 15 states passed bills in their legislatures against complying with REAL ID. Some of these "anti-REAL ID" bills went so far as to make it against the law for their respective DMVs to comply with the REAL ID regulations. Pennsylvania's anti-REAL ID prohibition was so severe that it [required that the legislature](#) to "repeal that law just to allow the [Gov.] Wolf Administration to talk to the federal government."

These bills were passed based on a few prevalent concerns, but almost ten years after the regulations were published, it turned out that none of those worries came to fruition. REAL ID wasn't a national ID, nor was it the slippery slope towards one that libertarians feared. Compliant states continue to design and issue driver's licenses themselves and are free to make changes they see fit. The standards are simply a set of minimum security requirements, mostly dealing with the security of the issuance process. Next, REAL ID wasn't an unfunded mandate, as many states applied for, received, and used millions of federal dollars towards

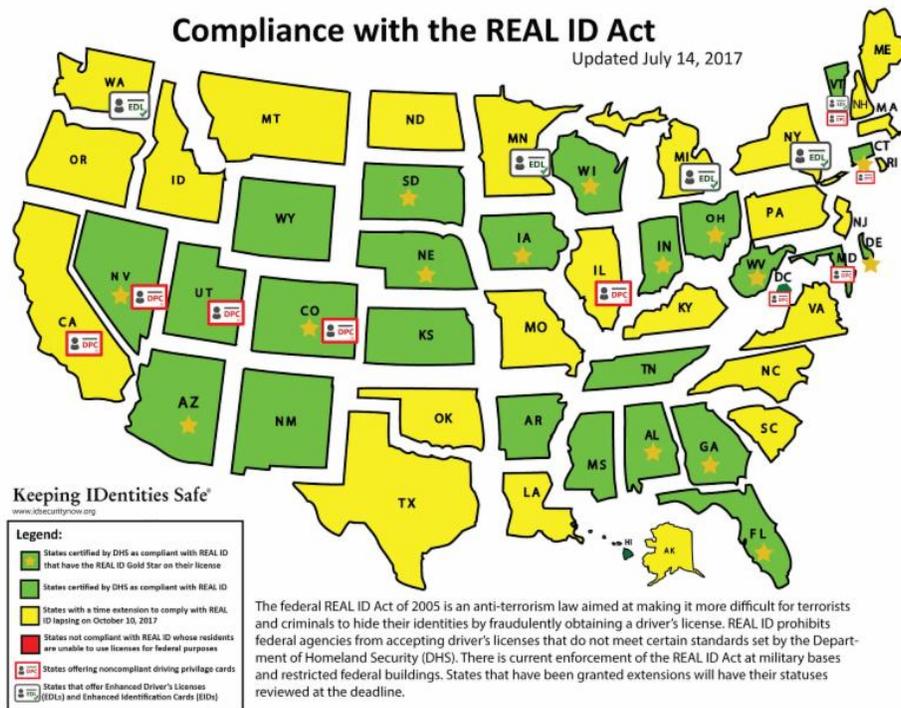
two-tier licensing systems, with a REAL ID card and a non-compliant card marked accordingly for those that wished to opt out. However, some states had to roll back their compliance, like Nevada, and many others still refused to move toward compliance in any way, shape, or form, like Oklahoma.



By January of 2017, a lot had changed (aside from our graphics department). The vast majority of states had either achieved compliance or were granted an extension by DHS based on demonstrated progress. A lot of this can be attributed to impending enforcement at airports, as TSA began posting signs at security lines throughout the country advising those from non-compliant states to get passports if their legislators and DMVs don't get it together. The ensuing media storm, as well as our work educating policy makers across the country on why they should be moving forward, influenced many states to get on board. But still, seven were yet resisting.



Reflected in our most recent map, DHS has now certified that about 90% of all U.S. citizens hold licenses from jurisdictions that are either compliant with REAL ID or have demonstrated enough progress toward the upgrades that they have received extensions to comply. Just this year, eight states have overcome their long held (and long misguided) opposition to REAL ID and repealed their anti-REAL ID bills barring compliance with the federal law. Pennsylvania even repealed that Draconian prohibition law that made it illegal for the governor to even talk to DHS.



Secretary Kelly has said that the one thing that keeps him up at night is another airplane hijacking by a terrorist. Just because it hasn't happened here since 9/11, it doesn't mean that the terrorists aren't still trying. Intelligence officials repeatedly warn that hijacking an airplane remains the number one goal for many of the terrorist organizations with which we are at war. We know the terrorists are constantly creating new and inventive ways to smuggle weapons onto planes. We also know that terrorists will try desperately to blend in with all the holiday travelers, business travelers, seasonal snowbirds, and everyone else boarding flights. REAL ID compliance is essential to mitigate against this threat. As I write this, we are pretty certain that REAL ID enforcement will be a fact of life at the nation's airports six months from now. States that have resisted REAL ID from day one also know this. We hope they will make the right decision for their residents, for other travelers, and for Americans everywhere.

COUNTERFEIT IDS: A NATIONAL SECURITY, PUBLIC SAFETY THREAT

New Florida IDs Double Counterfeit Resistance

The Florida driver's license and ID have long been among the most frequently counterfeited

documents by impostors. That's about to change, as Florida will double the counterfeit protection of its current IDs. The new license will include the facial image on four different locations on the card. Facial images are one of the hardest features to replicate on a document. The identification cards will also include designations for boater, freshwater, saltwater, and hunting licenses as well as designations for veteran, organ donor, deaf/hard of hearing, and developmentally disabled Floridians. Finally, the new Florida documents will designate convicted sex offenders with "943.0435 F.S." listed in the bottom right of their driver's licenses. The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles hopes to begin issuing these licenses in December of this year.

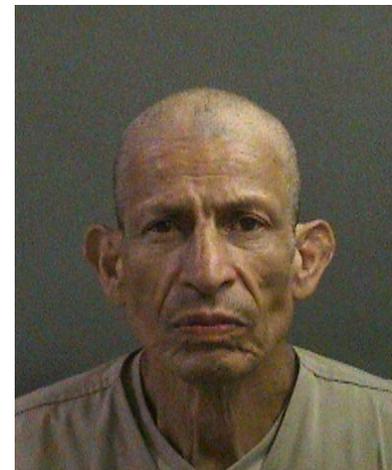


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Justice for the Rape and Murder of an Aspiring Model 25 Years Later

Over 25 years ago, Cari Ann Parnes of Irvine, CA was beaten, raped, and murdered by Leonardo Pimental Sanchez. After that brutal act, Sanchez used 27 different identities to escape from his horrific crime. He used at least five different driver's licenses and 19 different dates of birth on his identity documents. An Orange County Superior Court jury found Sanchez, now 59 years old, guilty of first-degree murder.

Parnes moved to California two years before her murder to become a model, but her dreams were halted when Sanchez broke her jaw and bashed in her head, leaving her for dead. Sanchez, born in Mexico, had been arrested at least 25 times in Orange County alone and was deported six different times. The aliases and fraudulent documents helped him escape his long RAP sheet so he could continue to evade justice.



2014 photo of Sanchez from the Orange County Sheriffs Department courtesy of the OC Register

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Fake PA ID used to Purchase two Audis

Fake IDs are used for so much more than underage drinking - including buying cars. A young girl used a fake Pennsylvania



Fraudulent Pennsylvania driver's license used to purchase Audis in someone else's name. NJ.com

ID in someone else's name to purchase two Audis for a combined cost of over \$85,000. The perpetrator was able to take out two lines of credit in a Pennsylvania victim's name using the fake ID and the woman's Social Security number.

Westampton police, where the crime occurred, said they have identified and arrested an accomplice when he tried to buy a third Audi but the female suspect is still on the loose.

According to police, the perpetrators were successful in purchasing an Audi A7 3.0 Prestige and a 2014 Audi Q7 SUV in two separate transactions. For both purchases, the female suspect presented her fake Pennsylvania driver's licenses with her own photograph but with the biographic information of the victim. Police are asking for help finding the female suspect, which will be difficult to do if she's using fake IDs. Pennsylvania has long been one of the easiest states for criminals and impostors to target for its identity documents, due to their lack of security features and vulnerabilities in identity authentication processes. Pennsylvania IDs remain the most counterfeited of all the states and likely one of the most fraudulently issued.

[Click here for the story](#)

Pennsylvania's New Driver's License Facing Slow Rollout

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) has finally upgraded its widely counterfeited driver's licenses and ID cards. However, the new documents are not hitting all the DMV offices quite yet. The cards are only currently available in Harrisburg and won't reach much of the state until mid-August. PennDOT has worked on the enhanced design and security features since 2015. Further, Pennsylvania likely won't become REAL ID compliant for another couple of years. According to a PennDOT news release, the agency "anticipates that REAL ID-compliant driver licenses and identification cards will be available at customer's option in 2019."

[Click here for the story](#)

Puerto Rican Birth Certificates Still a Major Vulnerability for State DMVs

Honduras national Javier Canizalez-Hernandez, 40, plead guilty to stealing the Social Security number of an innocent victim and using it to obtain a Louisiana ID card. Canizalez-Hernandez obtained the state ID from the Louisiana DMV office in Houma, LA after presenting false source documents, including a Puerto Rican birth certificate and Social Security card. He confessed to purchasing the documents from an unknown male nearly ten years ago for \$1,500. Puerto Rican birth certificates have been a major target for impostors for many years, used as a source document to obtain driver's licenses and ID cards all over the country. Due to that rampant fraud, all certified copies of Puerto Rican birth certificates issued prior to July 1, 2010, were ruled invalid in October 2010. Canizalez is currently in ICE custody awaiting a hearing by a federal immigration judge.

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Former Tennessee License Examiner Convicted of Taking Bribes

Despite tremendous leaps by state DMVs across the country in protecting residents' identities, insider fraud remains one of the biggest threats to our identity security. We saw that in the Walton Michael Wand of Antioch, Tennessee case. Wand was formerly employed by the Tennessee Department of Safety as a license examiner in Nashville before a fraud scheme was uncovered by the FBI. Wand was convicted in June of taking bribes in exchange for issuing driver's licenses to at least 21 unqualified individuals. He charged his customers upwards of \$250 per license to receive a valid document through fraud. Wand also provided identity documents to many who were unable to pass the required written examination. Wand was sentenced to 12 months in prison, three years of supervised release, and fined \$7,500. His three accomplices were also sentenced - Faransis Romany Faltas, 41, to 12 months of probation and \$400 in fines; Nourrdine Abidi, 50, to time served and \$250 in fines; and Youssef Aziz Abdelmalak, 40, to time served. These crimes compromised the integrity of both the driver's license credential and the Department of Motor Vehicles while putting innocent residents' identities at risk. With the assistance of these men, Wand armed unfit drivers with driver's licenses, but thankfully his plans were foiled by the authorities before he was able to do more damage.

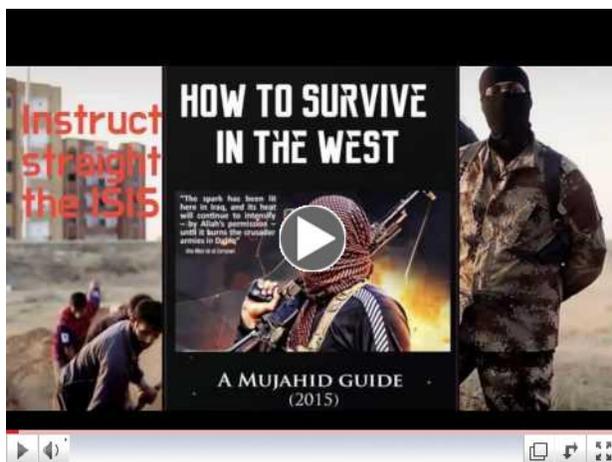
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Who Buys Fake IDs?

Did you know that fake IDs are used for so much more than underage drinking? They are a toolbox for serious criminals and "weapons" for terrorists. Share Keeping IDentities Safe's new video, "Who Buys Fake IDs?" to spread awareness of how fake IDs represent a very real public safety and national security threat.



Support Keeping Identities Safe



See how we help keep IDs out of the hands of criminals and terrorists!



Check out our Keeping Identities Safe for KIDS program, providing IDs for children!

How are we fighting driver's license fraud?

- By raising awareness
 - By working with law enforcement
 - By helping states comply with REAL ID
 - By working with state legislators all over the country
 - By providing research
 - By working every day to protect your identity documents!
- We can only continue to do this with your support*

[Click here for more!](#)



Keeping IDentities Safe
info@idsecuritynow.org | http://idsecuritynow.org



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