

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 13, 2019

Contact: Colonel Jake Elovirta, Department of Motor Vehicles  
802-793-9119, [William.Elovirta@vermont.gov](mailto:William.Elovirta@vermont.gov)

### **Vermont celebrates the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of motor vehicle inspectors**

Montpelier, Vt. – The Vermont Agency of Transportation will commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Motor Vehicle Inspectors enforcing motor vehicle and criminal laws at a celebration on Friday in Montpelier.

“I am extremely proud of the important work the Vermont Motor Vehicle Inspectors perform every day,” said Transportation Secretary Joe Flynn.

“The Vermont Motor Vehicle Inspectors’ celebration of 100 years of services is a testament to the significance of this program, and the commitment and value of promoting highway safety,” said DMV Commissioner Wanda Minoli.

The Motor Vehicle Inspectors were established on June 16, 1919, when Ara A. Griggs of Newport began his duties as the first Auto Inspector with the Secretary of State’s Office. He was the sole Inspector that patrolled the entire State that first year. In 1927, the Department of Motor Vehicles became a separate department from the Secretary of State’s Office. The Motor Vehicle Highway Patrol Inspectors were the primary statewide enforcement officers for the State of Vermont until the creation of the Vermont State Police in 1947.

Currently, the Motor Vehicle Inspectors continue their Department’s legacy of patrolling the State of Vermont’s highways to enforce motor vehicle and criminal laws in addition to being the lead agency for the enforcement of the Federal Commercial Motor Vehicle regulations.

The celebration on Friday will begin at 10:30 a.m. with a gathering on the State House lawn followed by an open house at the DMV building at 120 State Street in Montpelier, where there will be a newly created display of historical memorabilia and photos of the Inspectors and their work through the years.

The public is invited to join in the celebration of this milestone.

###