**Feature Story**

**NHTSA finalizes rear-view visibility rule, $200 million net cost**

NHTSA published a final rule requiring that certain areas behind a vehicle must be visible to the driver when the vehicle is in reverse to prevent "backover" accidents. NHTSA anticipates that vehicle manufacturers will comply using rearview video systems and in-vehicle visual displays. NHTSA estimates the rule will result in a net cost of between $202 million and $281 million.

**Rulemaking**

**EPA re-opens comment period for formaldehyde rule**

EPA announced that it is re-opening the public comment period for its 2013 proposed rule setting formaldehyde emissions standards for composite wood products. When it was proposed in July, EPA estimated that its rule would result in net costs of between $24 million to $79 million per year. [Comments](#) are now due on May 5.

**Financial regulators propose appraisal management rule**

The OCC, Board, FDIC, NCUA, Bureau, and FHFA jointly published a proposed rule setting minimum requirements for the registration and supervision of appraisal management companies (AMCs) by the states, pursuant to provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act.

**AMS lifts stay on Christmas tree fee rule**

The USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service published a final rule lifting a stay of AMS's 2011 final rule establishing Christmas tree fees for consumers as part of an industry-funded promotion, research, and information program for fresh cut Christmas trees.

**Agencies**

**FDA releases guidance on definition of "spouse", "family"**

FDA announced the release of a guidance document defining the meaning of the words "spouse" and "family" as used in FDA's regulations to include same-sex spouses, pursuant to the Supreme Court's ruling in United States v. Windsor. The affected regulations govern FOIA requests, rules for financial disclosure, protections for research subjects, and some conflict-of-interest provisions.

**In Opinion**

- **Steve Case**: [Hey, Washington, the JOBS Act You Passed Is Working](#)
- **Sen. Dan Coats**: [Act would discourage federal regulations with costs that exceed their benefits](#)
- **Todd Zywicki**: [Should high-frequency trading be regulated?](#)
- **Cass Sunstein**: [Are Safer Cars Worth the Money?](#)
- **Smith & Zywicki**: [The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau: A Toxic Workplace Begets Toxic Policies For Consumers](#)
- **Henry Miller**: [Bureaucrats Need To Learn The Difference Between Lettuce And Lipitor](#)

**In the News**

**Congress & Regulatory Reform**

- U.S. House panel to vote on swaps regulator mandate, [Reuters](#)
- Lawmakers criticize agencies over payday lending regs, [The Hill](#)
- House Republicans to mark up union election bill, [The Hill](#)

**Financial Markets & Housing**

Small Banks Look to Sell as Rules Bite, Wall Street Journal
Justice Department investigating high-frequency traders, Washington Post
Detroit judge sets swaps ruling date; CFTC looking into high-speed ‘spoofing’, Washington Post
Big Banks to Get Higher Capital Requirement, Wall Street Journal
Regulators Set to Approve Higher Capital Requirement for Large Banks, Wall Street Journal
Regulators act to require stronger bank capital, Washington Post
Fed gives banks 2 more years on risky securities, Washington Post
Senate Panel Approves Three Nominees To CFTC, Wall Street Journal
Nearly Half of Dodd-Frank Rules Still Unwritten, Wall Street Journal

Lawmakers push EPA for more time on water rule, Washington Post
EPA chief says power plant rule will be tough, enforceable, Reuters
EPA director says draft greenhouse rules will give states new tools, Los Angeles Times
EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy: ‘EPA listened’ on carbon rules, Washington Examiner
Feds to propose Arctic drilling rule ‘shortly’, The Hill

Large employers see costs from Obamacare, Washington Post
Health officials push Obama for release of e-cigarette regulation proposal, KJRH
11 appeals judges to review meat labeling ruling, Washington Post

Realtors and soybean farmers agree: Drone rules are overdue, Washington Post

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