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CPR Takes New Name to Reflect Expanded Mission: Center for Progressive Reform

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Washington, DC ----- Thomas O. McGarity today announced that the Center for Progressive Regulation, a network of law professors and other scholars at institutions of higher learning around the nation, was changing its name to reflect its growing mission. The new name: the Center for Progressive Reform.

"When we were founded three years ago, we wanted to counter, or at least expose, the Administration's ongoing effort to weaken health, safety, and environmental regulations," McGarity said. "That's a crucial battle, one we continue to fight. But much of our work has grown beyond the regulatory arena, taking in such issues as government secrecy, corporate governance and tort reform. So we've changed our name to reflect the scope of our work. We will continue to focus much of our attention on regulatory issues, bringing a progressive perspective to a process that increasingly puts business interests ahead of consumers and the environment." McGarity is the President of the Center for Progressive Reform, and a professor of law at the University of Texas at Austin.

In coming weeks, the Center for Progressive Reform will release a number of new white papers:

- In *The Truth about Torts: An Insurance Crisis, Not a Lawsuit Crisis*, McGarity (Univ. of Texas) and Douglas A. Kysar (Cornell) debunks the argument advanced by the health insurance industry and their conservative allies that frivolous lawsuits and large jury awards are driving increases in medical malpractice insurance that are in turn weakening the health care system.
- In *Is Cost-Benefit Analysis Neutral? An Analysis of the Bush Administration's Approach to Environmental, Health, and Safety Protection,* David M. Driesen (Syracuse University) examines the Bush Administration's use of cost-benefit analysis as applied to environmental regulations, and conclude that the Administration has used cost-benefit in a manner calculated to weaken standards.
- In Regulations in Name Only: How the Bush Administration's National Forest Planning Rule Frees the Forest Service from Mandatory Standards and Public Accountability, Alyson Flournoy (University of Florida) and Robert Glicksman (University of Kansas) argue that the Bush Administration has diluted the National Forest Management Act's planning regulations to the point that they are essentially meaningless, ensuring that forest-management plans that were once key to protecting the nation's forest land will become inconsequential exercises that will offer little hindrance to commercial use and destruction of vast swaths of forest land.

For more information on these and other projects of the Center for Progressive Reform, contact Matthew Freeman at mfreeman@progressivereform.org or 301-762-8980. Visit CPR on the web at www.progressivereform.org.