

## **New law in effect Jan. 1 mandates Delaware trucks have backup warning devices**

12/26/2013 By [Keith Goble](#), Land Line Magazine state legislative editor

Truckers who call Delaware their home will soon be required to have an extra piece of equipment attached to the vehicle.

A new law on the books Wednesday, Jan. 1, is aimed at preventing property damage, injuries or deaths that can result when backing up a large truck.

Commercial vehicles in excess of 26,000 pounds registered in the state after the first of the year are required to be equipped with an audible reverse warning signal, backup camera or other warning device. Farm vehicles are exempted from the requirement.

The rule applies to single and combination vehicles in the International Registration Plan as well as non-IRP trucks.

Advocates say the requirement is necessary to provide people nearby notice that a truck is either preparing to back up or in the process of backing up.

Anyone who fails to equip their truck with the required equipment would face \$75 fines. Repeat offenders would face \$175 fines.

The law was spurred by the 2009 death of a Penn Acres, Del., woman. According to reports, Dana Martino was struck and killed by a beer delivery truck in the parking lot where she worked in New Castle, Del.

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