



## Overview

This provision is new to the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) and covers the obligations in standards of conduct for the Customs Authorities of the Parties. There is no applicable provision in the former North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

## References

- **USMCA**
  - *Final Text*: Chapter 7, Article 7.19
- **NAFTA**
  - Not specified

## Significant Changes in USMCA

Provision	USMCA	NAFTA
<b>Changes/Differences</b>	<b>New to USMCA</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The parties must               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Establish rules to prevent customs offices from using their public service position for personal gain.</li> <li>○ Establish a method for the trade community to file complaints regarding misconduct or corrupt behavior.</li> <li>○ Act timely on complaints.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

## Detailed USMCA/NAFTA Side-by-Side

Provision	USMCA	NAFTA
<b>Standards of Conduct</b>	<b>Article 7.19: Standards of Conduct</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Further to Article 7.18 (Penalties) and Article 27.4 (Promoting Integrity among Public Officials), each Party shall adopt or maintain measures to deter its customs officials from engaging in any action that would result in, or that reasonably creates the appearance of, use of their public service position for private gain, including any monetary benefit.</li> <li>2. Each Party shall provide a mechanism for importers, exporters, carriers, customs brokers and other stakeholders to submit complaints regarding perceived improper or corrupt behavior in its territory, including at ports of entry and other customs offices, of its customs administration personnel. Each Party shall take appropriate action on a complaint in a timely manner in accordance with its laws, regulations, or procedures.</li> </ol>	Not specified.