

2019

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Weather proverbs aside, March certainly came in like a lion for the Office of Trade starting with the successful 21st Century Customs Framework Public Meeting. During the last week of February, my office successfully implemented Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act Drawback. The February 24th deployment included ACE core drawback capabilities which align with current drawback laws, and the ability to file drawback claims pursuant to the act. The Office of Trade hit an additional milestone this month with Section 201, 232, and 301 duty assessments surpassing \$20 billion. -Brenda Smith, Executive Assistant Commissioner, Office of Trade

21st Century Customs Framework Public Meeting

On March 1, the Office of Trade held a public meeting on the 21st Century Customs Framework at the U.S. Department of Commerce in Washington, D.C. Over 1,000 people from companies, industry associations, government, law firms and the media participated to discuss the future of trade. CBP Deputy Commissioner Robert Perez and U.S. Senator Bill Cassidy of Louisiana opened the meeting discussing the importance of efficient and secure trade.

During the meeting, importers, brokers, and other private sector trade stakeholders provided public comments to a government executive panel which included Executive Assistant Commissioners Brenda Smith and Todd Owen, Department of Homeland Security Assistant Secretary Michael Dougherty, Treasury Deputy Assistant Secretary Tim Skud, Commerce Deputy Assistant Secretary Lee Smith, Department of Agriculture Deputy Administrator Jennifer Tucker, and International Trade Commission Director Catherine DeFilippo. Several stakeholders asked CBP and its partner government agencies to minimize requests for the same data and improve data sharing to increase efficiency and reduce burdens on the trade community.

CBP has extended the [comment period](#) for the 21st Century Customs Framework through April 11. Public input will be vital as CBP pursues policy, regulatory, and statutory improvements as part of this comprehensive modernization effort. To view photos from the event, see [CBP's Flickr Album](#).

Final Determination in EAPA Case 7232 Issued ACE Deployment – Revised CBP Form 5106

On March 20, Office of Trade found substantial evidence to support the allegation that Columbia Aluminum Products, LLC had been evading payment of Anti-Dumping and Countervailing duties on imports of aluminum extrusions. Evidence showed that the company had been transshipping Chinese-origin extrusions through Vietnam, claiming Vietnam as the country of origin. One on-site visit to a supplier in Vietnam revealed a large stockpile of extrusions that were produced entirely in China. For more information on the Enforce and Protect Act and how to file an allegation, [click here](#).

On March 16, CBP deployed a revised CBP Form 5106 in the Automated Commercial Environment. The revised form will include new data elements, which will provide additional detail on those requesting to be recognized as importers of record, further enhancing CBP's ability to perform risk assessment. [\[read more\]](#)



Section 301 Increased Duties Postponed

On February 24, the President announced that, due to ongoing trade negotiations with China, Section 301 duties that were set to increase to 25 percent on March 2 were to remain at 10 percent until further notice. The Section 301 duties currently only apply to products of China and are based on the country of origin, not country of export. On March 5, the United States Trade Representative published a new Federal Register Notice detailing the change. [\[read more\]](#)

New on @CBPTradeGov

- 🐦 3/12/19: Reminder: @CBP will conduct the next Customs Broker License Examination on 4/24/19... [\[read more\]](#)
- 🐦 3/20/19: Moving household goods from abroad into the U.S.? Get the @CBP forms you need... [\[read more\]](#)
- 🐦 3/25/19: @CBP protects our economy through our trade enforcement efforts. CBP combats trade fraud by detecting high risk activity, deterring non-compliance... [\[read more\]](#)

CBP Trade in the News

- ◆ [How emerging tech can streamline trade and customs](#) – *FCW* – 3/1/19
- ◆ [Here's how the trade war could lead to a boom in counterfeit goods](#) – *CNBC* – 3/13/19
- ◆ [Trump warns he'll keep China tariffs for 'substantial period of time'](#) – *Politico* – 3/20/19

The Trade News Snapshot is a monthly newsletter from the Office of Trade highlighting important programs, information, and updates for our trade partners and the public.



COAC Meeting and Northern Triangle Working Group



Members of the Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee (COAC) gathered in Washington, D.C., February 27, for their first public meeting in 2019. Among the topics discussed was agency challenges with Central America. At the meeting, Commissioner Kevin McAleenan called upon members of the committee to participate in the newly formed [Northern Triangle Working Group](#), the primary goal of which will be the development of recommendations on reducing the nontariff trade barriers and improving customs processes in the Northern Triangle region of Central America, comprising the countries of Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras.

“It’s very clear that the key push factors for illicit migration right now in the region are driven by economics,” said CBP Commissioner McAleenan. “Trade flows in the region are beset by poor and slow information exchange, limited coordination among border agencies, weak infrastructure and border control operations, customs delays and the lack of a risk management or a true trusted supply chain partnership approach among the authorities in the region.”

[\[read more\]](#)

Fiscal Year 2020 Presidential Budget Request and Trade’s Intelligent Enforcement Request

On March 11, President Trump released the FY2020 Budget Request. The FY2020 Trade and Travel Operations budget request of \$4.6 billion is \$179 million above the FY2019 President’s Budget, and \$578 million below the FY2019 Enacted. Of note, Office of Trade specifically requests \$24.3 million for intelligent trade enforcement, and investments would include \$5 million for Risk Based Bonding, \$12 million for Cognitive Analytics and Trade Targeting, \$3 million for Federated View of Accounts and Case Tracking, and \$4.3 million for Workforce Modernization. For more information on the FY2020 President’s Budget, see the [DHS Congressional Justifications](#).

Executive Assistant Commissioner Brenda Smith at NCTO 16th Annual Meeting

On March 20th, EAC Smith attended the National Council of Textile Organizations 16th annual meeting in Washington, D.C.. She was interviewed on stage by NCTO CEO Auggie Tantillo about CBP’s vision for trade enforcement, new CBP initiatives, and how the private sector can work with CBP to better target illicit shipments and protect American businesses. In FY2018, textiles represented more than \$127 billion in annual import values for the US, and the industry is a critical CBP partner. Industry partnerships enable CBP to obtain valuable commodity-specific knowledge and intelligence, contributing significantly to CBP’s targeting and enforcement efforts.



Tunago Withhold Release Order

On February 4, CBP issued a withhold release order against tuna and tuna products from the Tunago No. 61 fishing vessel, based on information obtained by CBP indicating tuna was harvested with the use of forced labor. The order is effective immediately as of the date of issuance. [\[read more\]](#)

AD/CVD – Plywood Kitchen Cabinets

CBP and Department of Commerce have worked together to prevent antidumping and countervailing duty evasion after examining “Ready to Assemble Kitchen Cabinets” and discovering they were made from Chinese hardwood plywood. CBP has identified over \$600,000 in AD/CVD owed, and anticipates recovering additional significant duties through this joint efforts. [\[read more\]](#)

Latest Trade Federal Register Notices

- ◆ [84 FR 8807: Extension of Import Restrictions Imposed on Archaeological and Ecclesiastical Ethnological Material From Honduras](#)
- ◆ [84 FR 8734: Agency Information Collection Activities: User Fees](#)
- ◆ [84 FR 7099: Agency Information Collection Activities: Vessel Entrance or Clearance Statement](#)
- ◆ [84 FR 6808: Notice of Issuance of Final Determination Concerning Various Stimulating Probes](#)

New Cargo System Messaging Service Updates

- ◆ [#19-000125: FDA End-dating a CDRH Product Code and Adding New CDER Product Codes](#)
- ◆ [#19-000114: New unit of quantity given on dutiable statistical suffixes on January 1, 2019](#)
- ◆ [#19-000109: A/P Delay for Drawback Claims Returned to Trade Control on December 17, 2018](#)
- ◆ [#19-000110: Updated ACE Reports Information Notice](#)

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