

**Commercial Customs Operations Advisory
Committee (COAC)
Rapid Response Subcommittee**

June 23, 2021



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Report of the Work of the COAC
Subcommittee on Rapid Response (RR)

Co-Chairs

Brenda Barnes – Geo. S. Bush & Co., Inc.
Brian White – The J.M. Smucker Company
Kathy Wilkins – Alliance Operating Services

Rapid Response Subcommittee Members:

Cindy Allen, Brenda Barnes, Barry Baxter, Celeste Catano, Lenny Feldman, Lisa Gelsomino, Amy Magnus, Madeleine Veigel, Brian White, and Kathy Wilkins.

Background

The COAC Rapid Response Subcommittee was established October 2018, following the restructuring of COAC Subcommittees and underlying Working Groups to better align with CBP's Trade Strategy 2020. This strategy focuses on three areas aimed at modernizing import/export processes, improving trade intelligence, and maximizing efficiencies.

This past quarter, the Rapid Response Subcommittee received updates from the Broker Exam Modernization Working Group and the U.S. – Mexico – Canada Agreement (USMCA) Working Group.

All subcommittee objectives and scope are consistent with the official charter of COAC.

Summary of Work

The Rapid Response Subcommittee has focused on the following areas this past quarter; Broker Exam Modernization Working Group and the USMCA Working Group. The members received an update from the Broker Exam Modernization Working Group on the preparations for the April 2021 remote proctored broker examination.

Broker Exam Modernization Working Group (BEMWG):

Since the March 17, 2021 COAC public meeting, the BEMWG has held six (6) full working group conference calls. The discussions have mainly been focused on preparing for the first ever CBP offering of a remote proctored exam. Specifically, the team worked closely together to extensively review and physically test the remote process and technology leading up to the April 2021 exam. The group will continue to evaluate opportunities to improve the participant experience with the remote proctored exam as well as the traditional exam.

U.S. – Mexico – Canada Agreement (USMCA) Working Group:

The USMCA Working Group has continued to work with CBP and the Center for USMCA on the implementation, as the end of restrained enforcement has passed. The USMCA Working Group has identified specific topics for review with the USMCA Center, as the implementation date of the new regulations approaches. The topics for discussion include export guidance, e-signatures, and the marking rules in part 102 of Title 19 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Conclusion

The Rapid Response Subcommittee looks forward to continued collaboration with CBP on the Broker Exam Modernization efforts and objectives. Additionally, we stand ready to support CBP and the next phases of the USMCA implementation and the next phase of enforcement.