

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

March 17, 2021

**COAC**

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COMMERCIAL CUSTOMS OPERATIONS  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee (COAC)  
March 17, 2021**

**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 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 U.S. – Mexico – Canada Agreement Working Group.

**Broker Exam Modernization Working Group (BEMWG):**

Since the December 16, 2020 COAC public meeting, the BEMWG has held six (6) full working group conference calls. The discussions have mainly been focused on preparing for the upcoming April examination. Specifically, the team has provided seven exam questions for CBP to consider, assisted with preparation of the April exam announcement postings, and spent significant time and effort in preparing for the launch of the first ever remote proctored exam, which will provide examinees the opportunity to take the exam outside of the designated proctor locations.

Additionally, the team continued to discuss additional opportunities to improve the overall quality and experience.

**U.S. – Mexico – Canada Agreement (USMCA) Working Group:** The USMCA Working Group has reconvened and is working with CBP and the Center for USMCA on the implementation as the end of restrained enforcement has passed. The group has also reviewed the Implementing Instructions Addendum, published on January 12, 2021.

### **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.