

Information Pipeline

U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Department of Homeland Security
Detroit Field Office

Number: DFO-20-001

TO: Brokers, Importers, and Other Concerned Members of the Trade Community

SUBJECT: Imports of Pandemic Response Materials

DATE: March 30, 2020

PURPOSE:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection remains open for business during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. As the cases of COVID-19 continue to rise in Michigan and across the nation, the Detroit Field Office, its Ports of Entry, and the Centers of Excellence and Expertise are facing an increased number of shipments claiming to be for pandemic relief efforts. Some of these shipments have been proven to be legitimate while others are being imported in an attempt to profit off the most vulnerable segments of our population.

CBP seeks to expedite legitimate shipments of relief materials while taking appropriate actions against disreputable actors.

BACKGROUND:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) remains committed our nation and its people while facilitating the entry of legitimate cargo and passengers. Our ability to expedite legitimate pandemic relief materials helps protect America's citizens and lawful permanent residents, and will help slow the spread of COVID-19.

ACTION:

Effective immediately, importers or their agents are advised to provide advanced notification to CBP when they are expecting shipments of pandemic relief materials i.e. pharmaceutical products, personal protective equipment, medical supplies or other miscellaneous cleaning and maintenance items. This includes shipments entering via air, land, water, or already arrived and pending release. This is particularly true for shipments that may have a hold placed on them.

Importers or their agents are also encouraged to ensure all available shipping, entry and Partner Government Agency (PGA) documents are submitted via the Document Image System (DIS).

For shipments arriving through the Detroit Field Office Ports of Entry, please utilize the following points of contact:

Port of Detroit

APD Chadrick Matthies, (313) 964-7845, chadrick.c.matthies@cbp.dhs.gov

Port of Port Huron

Chief Denise Dupuie, (810) 989-8847, denise.a.dupuie@cbp.dhs.gov

Port of Detroit Metropolitan Airport

Chief Riyad Silmi, (734) 941-6397 Ext: 197, riyad.silmi@cbp.dhs.gov

Port of Sault Ste. Marie

APD Paul Rupprecht, (906) 632-3626x202, paul.w.rupprecht@cbp.dhs.gov

Importers and their agents may also contact their servicing Center of Excellence and Expertise. Contact information for each of the Centers is below. CBP has a national toll-free number (866-295-7624) to contact the Centers; however, with most Center personnel teleworking due to the pandemic, email is the recommended method of contact.

Center	Email Address	(866) 295-7624 Extension
Agriculture & Prepared Products	CEE-Agriculture@cbp.dhs.gov	02
Apparel, Footware & Textiles	CCE-Apparel@cbp.dhs.gov	04
Automotive & Aerospace	CEE-Automotive@cbp.dhs.gov	03
Base Metals	CEE-Basemetals@cbp.dhs.gov	05
Consumer Product & Mass Merchandising	CEE-Consumer@cbp.dhs.gov	08
Electronics	CEE-Electronics@cbp.dhs.gov	07
Industrial & Manufacturing Materials	CEE-Industrialmaterials@cbp.dhs.gov	09
Machinery	CEE-Machinery@cbp.dhs.gov	10
Petroleum, Natural Gas & Minerals	CCE-Petroleum@cbp.dhs.gov	06
Pharmaceuticals, Health & Chemicals	CCE-Pharmaceuticals@cbp.dhs.gov	01

For other questions regarding shipments entering within the Detroit Field Office, you may email the Detroit Field Office, Trade Team at dfotradeoperations@cbp.dhs.gov.

Should you have any further questions about this information pipeline please contact the following:

Program Manager Andrew Archer - andrew.j.archer@cbp.dhs.gov

Supervisory Program Manager Andrew Weed - andrew.j.weed@cbp.dhs.gov

/s/ Tinesha Cherry

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