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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Customs Brokers User Fee Payment for 2018

AGENCY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: This document provides notice to customs brokers that the annual user fee that is assessed for each permit held by a broker, whether it may be an individual, partnership, association, or corporation, is due by January 26, 2018. Pursuant to fee adjustments required by the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) and CBP regulations, the annual user fee for calendar year 2018 will be \$141.70.

DATES: Payment of the 2018 Customs Broker User Fee is due by January 26, 2018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julia Peterson, Broker Management Branch, Office of Trade, (202) 863-6601.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Pursuant to section 111.96 of title 19 of the Code of Federal Regulations (19 CFR 111.96(c)), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) assesses an annual user fee for each customs broker district and national permit held by an individual, partnership, association, or corporation. CBP regulations provide that this fee is payable for each calendar year in each broker district where the broker was issued a permit to do business by the due date. *See* 19 CFR 24.22(h) and (i)(9). Broker districts are defined in the

General Notice entitled, “Geographic Boundaries of Customs Brokerage, Cartage and Lighterage Districts,” published in the *Federal Register* on March 15, 2000 (65 FR 14011), and corrected, with minor changes, on March 23, 2000 (65 FR 15686) and on April 6, 2000 (65 FR 18151).

On December 4, 2015, the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act, Pub. L. 114-94) was signed into law. Section 32201 of the FAST Act amended section 13031 of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) of 1985 (19 U.S.C. 58c) by requiring certain customs COBRA user fees and corresponding limitations to be adjusted by the Secretary of the Treasury (Secretary) to reflect certain increases in inflation.

On November 1, 2017, CBP published a final rule, CBP Dec. 17-16 (82 FR 50523), which amended sections 24.22 and 24.23 of title 19 of the Code of Federal Regulations (19 CFR 24.22 and 24.23) to implement the requirements of the FAST Act. Specifically, CBP created a new paragraph (k) in section 24.22 (19 CFR 24.22(k)) that sets forth the methodology to determine the change in inflation as well as the factor by which the fees and limitations will be adjusted, if necessary. The customs broker user fee is set forth in Appendix A of part 24. (19 CFR 24.22 Appendix A). On November 1, 2017, CBP also published a *Federal Register* notice, CBP Dec. 17-17, which among other things, announced that the annual broker permit user fee will increase to \$141.70 for calendar year 2018. *See* 82 FR 50659.

As required by 19 CFR 111.96, CBP must provide notice in the *Federal Register* no later than 60 days before the date that the payment is due for each broker permit. This document notifies customs brokers that for calendar year 2018, the due date for payment of the user fee is January 26, 2018.

Dated: November 20, 2017

Brenda B. Smith
Executive Assistant Commissioner
Office of Trade

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