

2021

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From now on, you'll see a new face on the Trade News Snapshot. After nearly 34 years of government service, I have decided to retire, and I'm thrilled to announce that John Leonard, Executive Director of Trade Policy and Programs here at the Office of Trade, will step in as Acting EAC. It has been a genuine pleasure to advance CBP's trade mission in my role as Executive Assistant Commissioner (EAC). I will truly miss working with our partners and stakeholders, but I'm proud of the work we've done together over the years. And though I'm leaving, the work doesn't stop! Read on for news about the STOP Act, a profile of our outstanding female leaders, the latest on COVID-19 related seizures, and more!

-Brenda Smith, Executive Assistant Commissioner, Office of Trade

Women's History Month Feature

At the Office of Trade, we're proud to have several strong female leaders. Acting Deputy Executive Assistant Commissioner (aDEAC) Alice A. Kipel, Executive Director (XD) Ana B. Hinojosa, and acting Executive Director (aXD) Joanne R. Stump bring decades of leadership experience to their work. Before joining our team, aDEAC Kipel worked for 35 years as a private practice international trade litigator and served as an attorney-advisor in the Office of the Solicitor at the Department of Interior. Executive Director Hinojosa is most proud of her time as the director of compliance and Facilitation at the World Customs Organization and president of the Executive Women in Government organization in Washington, D.C., and acting Executive Director Stump has held multiple supervisory positions within both Legacy Customs and U.S. Customs and Border Protection since 1989. Here's what they have to say about past success, the future of trade, and the importance of female leadership.



Alice A. Kipel
Acting Deputy Executive Assistant Commissioner



Ana B. Hinojosa
Executive Director



Joanne R. Stump
Acting Executive Director

What are some of your biggest professional accomplishments to date?

aDEAC Kipel: My most memorable regulatory package "win" is the Enforce and Protect Act Interim Final Rule, which we put together from scratch and were able to get out the door from start to finish in six months to satisfy a statutory deadline. We published the rule in August 2016, and it has thus far worked very well for four and a half years.

XD Hinojosa: Globally, I led updates the SAFE Framework of Standards and the creation of the E-Commerce Framework of Standards. I helped socialize the e-commerce impacts to many countries at the World Trade Organization and at numerous international forums.




aXD Stump: One of my big accomplishments in the regulations arena was the publication of the Korea-US Free Trade Agreement within a three-month period from the implementing legislation—that was a huge lift, as the other 14 free trade agreements were promulgated approximately a year or so from the enacting legislation.

What about the future of trade are you most excited about?

aDEAC Kipel: I am very excited about the fact that trade is taking a leading role in environmental protection issues. We are now seeing environmental issues becoming part and parcel of the trade agenda. Environmental protection provisions are being incorporated into free trade agreements, into the commitments we are seeking from other governments, and into U.S. discussions about trade policy.

XD Hinojosa: Automation and opportunities for modernizing our processes offer a very promising future for trade.

Popular on @CBPTradeGov

-  2/24: This year marks the 5th anniversary of the enactment of the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act, or #TFTEA. TFTEA supports @CBP's efforts to ensure U.S. economic security and prosperity through trade enforcement & modernization. <https://go.usa.gov/xsKp7>
-  3/1: This just in! @CBP's new #ACE Development and Deployment Schedule is now available online. View the new schedule and stay up to date with the latest ACE enhancements at <https://go.usa.gov/xsNaf> #CBPtrade #TradeMatters #SingleWindow
-  3/5: The Commercial Targeting & Analysis Center held an Appreciation Ceremony yesterday recognizing 4 @CBP officers & a @US_FDA officer for a seizure of 20 cartons of high erucic acid mustard seed oil, intercepted at the Port of Baltimore as a result of CTAC targeting. @DFOBaltimore



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CBPTrade in the News

- [Trend Alert: Increased US Oversight of Forced Labor in Supply Chains](#) – National Law Review – 3/17
- [U.S. Customs in Cincinnati seizes fake luxury jewelry worth nearly \\$3.2M had it been genuine](#) – Cincinnati Enquirer – 3/11

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.



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aXD Stump: As trade is predicted to increase, getting information to nationwide field trade specialists quickly will be key in order to efficiently process entries and collect revenue. At the future “Trade and Cargo Academy,” which will be stood up in South Carolina, newly-hired CBP trade specialists will benefit from virtual learning opportunities that help to deepen their trade knowledge after formal basic training ends. Accordingly, the trade specialists, namely import specialists, entry specialists, drawback specialists, and other trade compliance positions, will benefit from the continual refresh of their trade knowledge to perform their roles effectively.

Why is it important to have women in leadership positions?

aDEAC Kipel: In my view, the fact that we are asking the question “why” is problematic. To me, it is simple math – given that women make up about 50% of the population, there is no reason why they should not also occupy about 50% of leadership positions.

XD Hinojosa: Women have valuable skills that uniquely enable them to be leaders in any organization. Aside from women’s ability to be equally successful and effective as leaders, if given the same opportunities as men, women have demonstrated extraordinarily strong work ethic and abilities to multitask, and yet still address responsibilities outside of the work environment. Women bring different perspectives, experiences and approaches to issues, which can be a huge strategic advantage to any team, especially a leadership team.

aXD Stump: The different perspectives that women bring, including their ability to communicate well, enhance the overall decision making of the workplace at large.

STOP Act Interim Final Rule Published

To address the threat of synthetic opioids and other dangerous items coming to the U.S. in international mail shipments, and to implement the requirements of the Synthetics Trafficking and Overdose Prevention Act of 2018 (STOP Act), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is amending its regulations to require the United States Postal Service (USPS) to transmit certain advance electronic information to CBP.

Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas signed the Interim Final Rule (IFR), stating that “the STOP Act is an important step in the battle against the deadly scourge of synthetic drugs that has caused so much loss and pain in our country... The Department of Homeland Security is proud to implement the STOP Act through this regulation.” [See FRN.](#)

The amended regulations will enhance the security of international mail shipments entering the U.S. by enabling CBP to conduct better targeting and risk assessments. This will help disrupt the flow of illicit supply chains that exploit the postal environment and will reduce shipments of illicit fentanyl and other dangerous goods from entering the country.

“CBP is the frontline in the battle against dangerous and illicit drugs shipped to our country through the international mail system,” said Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Commissioner Troy Miller. “Fentanyl and its many fentanyl-based analogues continue to plague the American people, and these regulations will be critical in our efforts to identify and disrupt the transnational criminal organizations who ship these deadly drugs through our international mail system.” [Read more...](#)

Latest Trade Federal Register Notices

- 86 FR 10115 – [Stakeholder Scheduling Application](#)
- 86 FR 12487 – [Notice of Issuance of Final Determination Concerning a Transceiver](#)
- 86 FR 12963 – [Notice of Issuance of Final Determination Concerning Certain Fixed and Portable Ceiling Lifts](#)
- 86 FR 13993 – [Extension of Import Restrictions Imposed on Certain Archaeological and Ethnological Materials from Columbia](#)

CBP Sees Record Covid-19 Counterfeit PPE Seizures



CBP continues to collaborate with federal partners and the trade community to facilitate the importation of legitimate medical supplies and other goods necessary for the COVID-19 response while verifying that those goods are

authorized for safe use. As part of that effort, CBP is interdicting fraudulent and unauthorized goods that could harm the health and safety of Americans. Since the pandemic began until the end of February, CBP has seized more than:

- 177,500 FDA-prohibited COVID-19 test kits in 414 incidents,
- 30 million counterfeit face masks seized in 611 incidents,
- 37,000 EPA-prohibited anti-virus lanyards in 118 incidents,
- 38,000 FDA-prohibited chloroquine tablets in 229 incidents,
- 6,000 tablets of antibiotics, such as azithromycin, in 108 incidents, and
- 300,000 containers of hand sanitizer in 36 incidents.

Earlier this month, on March 1, CBP officers assigned to the International Mail Facility at O’Hare International Airport seized 136 boxes containing counterfeit 3M N95 type masks with a 3M trademark. [Read more...](#)

New Cargo System Messaging Service Updates

- CSMS #46607367 – [GUIDANCE: Section 301 China Duties Extension of Product Exclusions](#)
- CSMS #46628395 - [Information on the Deployment of Craft Beverage Modernization Act Enhancements in ACE](#)
- CSMS #46641761 - [CBP Preparing to Deploy Improved ACE Availability Dashboard](#)
- CSMS #46642358 - [Trade Policy Update: USMCA Drawback Deployment Update](#)