Port of Chicago – Pipeline

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Pipeline 08-25
July 16, 2008

To: **Customhouse Brokers, Importers, and Others Concerned**

SUBJECT: **Instructions for Completion of ATF Form 6A, Release and Receipt of Imported Firearms, Ammunition, and Implements of War**

The Port of Chicago would like to remind federally licensed and/or registered importers and their entry filers of the procedures to follow when completing ATF Form 6A, "Release and Receipt of Imported Firearms, Ammunition, and Implements of War", as outlined in 27 CFR 478.112 and on the instruction page of the form.

To obtain the release of firearm(s), ammunition, or implements of war from the custody of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), the importer must complete Section I of Form 6A, in **duplicate**, and present **one copy** to CBP along with the approved import permit, ATF Form 6. The importer retains a second copy of the form 6A.

The ATF Form 6A must contain the information requested on the form, including:

a) The name, address, and license number of the importer;
b) The name of the manufacturer of the firearm, firearm barrel, or ammunition;
c) The country of manufacture;
d) The type;
e) The model;
f) The caliber, gauge, or size;
g) The serial number in the case of firearms, if known; and
h) The number of firearms, firearms barrels, or rounds of ammunition to be released.

If the import includes firearms for which the serial numbers are not known at the time of importation, the serial numbers must be reported in Section III of the ATF Form 6A within 15 days of the date of release from CBP custody. The CBP Officer will complete Section II on one copy of ATF Form 6A if he/she is satisfied that the shipment of firearm(s), ammunition, or implements of war was authorized by ATF. At this point, the CBP Officer will return the import permit, ATF Form 6, to the importer and mail the ATF Form 6A directly to the ATF, FEIB, 244 Needy Road, Martinsburg, WV 25405.

Within 15 days of the date of release from CBP custody, the licensed and/or registered importer must complete Section III of the **duplicate copy** of Form 6A and forward it to FEIB. Any discrepancies or errors appearing on the Form 6A and any serial numbers not previously provided on that form must be reported on the duplicate copy.

The duplicate copy of Form 6A which the importer forwards to ATF is not required to have Section II completed by CBP.

ATF wishes to maintain open lines of communication in its partnership with the import community. The ATF Firearms and Explosives Imports Branch staff is available to answer your questions about the above outlined procedures at (304) 616-4550 or by fax at (304) 616-4551.

Questions about this pipeline may be directed to Supervisory CBP Officer Andrew Ferreri at (847) 928-3008 or Chief CBP Officer Suzanne Papa at (847) 928-3009.

Carl Ambroson
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Port of Chicago