

## DHS/CBP Amends Customs Regulations to Include Civil Monetary Penalty Adjustments

On December 8, 2017, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) amended its regulations to adjust for inflation the amounts that CBP can assess as civil monetary penalties for the following three violations:

- The penalty for transporting passengers between coastwise points in the United States by a non-coastwise qualified vessel has been increased from \$750 to \$762.
- The penalty for towing a vessel between coastwise points in the United States by a non-coastwise qualified vessel has been increased from \$875-\$2,750 plus \$150 per ton to a new amount of \$889-\$2,795 plus \$152 per ton.
- The penalty for dealing in or using an empty stamped imported liquor container after it has already been used once has been increased from \$500 to \$508.

These changes are being made in accordance with the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015 which was enacted on November 2, 2015. In addition, a number of other CBP civil penalty amounts were adjusted pursuant to this 2015 Act in previously published documents published in the Federal Register on July 1, 2016, and January 27, 2017; however, the adjustments for these three civil penalties were omitted from those documents inadvertently and so are being published now. The rule went into effect on December 8, 2017. The adjusted penalty amounts will be applicable for penalties assessed after December 8, 2017 if the associated violations occurred after November 2, 2015.

Source: CBP website, December 8, 2017, retrieved January 11, 2018, <https://www.cbp.gov/news/civil-monetary-penalty-adjustments-inflation-0>

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