

U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION
Department of Homeland Security

PORT OF CORPUS CHRISTI-POINT COMFORT, TEXAS

PUBLIC INFORMATION NOTICE

DATE: 04/10/2007

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**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL:
361-888-3352**

SUBJECT: Reporting of Stowaways and Evidence of Stowaway Activities

Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has worked diligently creating a multi-layered approach to cargo and carrier security by instituting national targeting, the Container Security Initiative, and the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism program. However, occasionally stowaways are discovered aboard inbound vessels at our ports of entry. It is essential that CBP be made aware of all such occurrences in a timely manner, even if the stowaways themselves are no longer present.

I am requesting your voluntary cooperation in the immediate notification to CBP of discovery of any evidence of stowaway activities. Of particular interest would be the discovery of evidence of stowaway activities within a container, such as the presence of blankets, mattresses, food, water, etc. Though we believe such occurrences are rare and are already timely reported to CBP by terminal operators and carriers when evidence of stowaways is discovered, recent stowaway events reiterate this potential threat and the need for immediate notification to CBP of all such discoveries.

Report any evidence of stowaway activities by contacting the Port Director at (361) 442-9107. Thank you for your continued support in strengthening the security of our nation.

/s/

Edith Clarke
Port Director

DISCLAIMER: This information has been prepared for your convenience by the CBP officers at the Area Port of Houston/Galveston. The material is intended to provide guidance. Recognizing that many complicated factors are involved in CBP matters, an importer may wish to obtain a binding ruling under 19 CFR 177. Reliance solely on this information may not be considered reasonable care. Importers are referred to Treasury Decision 97-96, which was published in the **Federal Register** of December 4, 1997, and in the **CBP Bulletin** on December 17, 1997, for in-depth information on the concept of reasonable care.