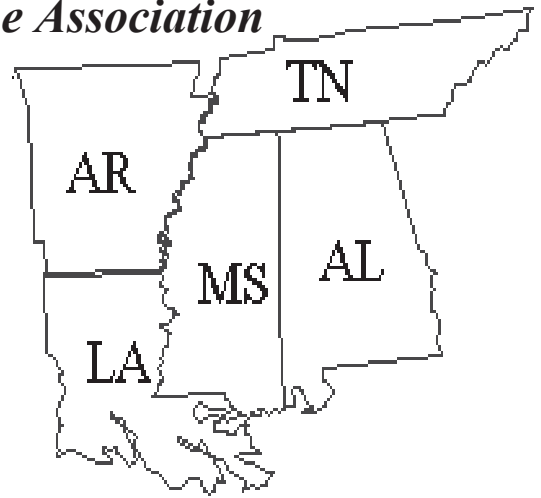


Southern Currents



Notice to the Area Port of New Orleans Trade Community

Date February 27, 2007

No.: 07-108

SUBJECT: Reminder: Immediate and Mandatory Notification of All Incidents Involving Stowaways and Absconding or Deserting Crewmembers.

BACKGROUND:

This notice is being sent to reaffirm and remind our industry partners of the requirements set forth in Southern Currents number 05-067 dated November 17, 2005. In order to advance our priority mission of protecting the public from terrorists and instruments of terrorism, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has identified the need to clarify actions required by Vessel Masters and/or Agents when crewmembers desert and/or abscond. Immediate notification by the trade is necessary in order for us to conduct a thorough investigation, and to afford us the best opportunity to apprehend the deserter/absconder.

ACTION:

This notice serves as a reminder to terminal operators, CES operators, vessel masters and/or agents and other interested parties, the importance of immediate notification to CBP when any evidence of stowaway activity is discovered either onboard a vessel or within a container, such as the presence of blankets, mattresses, food, water, etc. Notifications are to be directed to the attention of the CBP Duty Officer at (504) 269-6154.

Timely notification to the local CBP office is crucial to conducting a thorough investigation of incidents of stowaways, deserters and absconders. Failure to provide immediate notification to CBP could result in: denial of outbound clearance to proceed foreign; denial of a permit to proceed to another port in the United States; and/or the denial to unlade. If you have questions regarding this issue, please contact Chief CBP Officer Ron Biagas or Chief CBP Officer Phillip Stanford at 504-269-6154.

/s/

Eileen J. Shaw
Assistant Port Director, Tactical
Port of New Orleans