



Homeland Security

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Directors, Field Operations
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Special Agents in Charge
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

FROM: Jayson P. Ahern (b)(6); (b)(7)(c)
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Office of Field Operations
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

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Director, Office of Investigations
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

SUBJECT: Re-Energizing the CBP and ICE Trade Fraud Program

We are issuing this joint memorandum to all our field offices as a means of informing all personnel from both ICE Office of Investigations (OI) and CBP Office of Field Operations (OFO) of our joint commitment to re-energize our efforts in the area of Trade Fraud enforcement. Recent events have highlighted the need for both of our agencies to work together in improving the quality and quantity of enforcement efforts in our Trade Fraud program.

There are a number of success stories in trade enforcement. During fiscal year 2006, the number of fraud penalties increased 41% over the previous fiscal year. Additionally, over \$100 million in textile products were seized in the past year that were smuggled, falsely described or incorrectly claimed as to country of origin to circumvent quotas or to avoid paying duties.

Other examples show how effective our offices are when we maintain open lines of communication. In Laredo, ICE provided information to CBP that counterfeit cigarettes were being smuggled, via in-bond shipments of footwear from China. As a result, Laredo's OFO personnel targeted containers of footwear and placed holds on footwear from China through Long Beach and destined for Laredo. Instead of counterfeit cigarettes, fourteen shipments of counterfeit footwear were discovered. Laredo ICE was notified that all fourteen containers were seized and an investigation is now ongoing. The total manufacturer's suggested retail price of these seizures is estimated at \$12,313,500.

(b) (7)(E)

At the ICE Headquarters level, Mr. (b)(6) (7)(C) is the Unit Chief for Commercial Fraud and IPR Investigations and can be reached at (b)(6); (b)(7)(c). At CBP Headquarters, Ms. (b)(6) (7)(C) is the Director, Special Enforcement Division, Trade Enforcement and Facilitation and can be reached at (b)(6); (b)(7)(c). They and their staff work together to coordinate field activities, as well as discuss trade fraud issues on a National level.

(b)(6) (7)(C), (b) (7)(E)