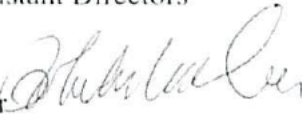




U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

MAY 17 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR: All Assistant Directors
All Special Agents in Charge
All Deputy Assistant Directors

FROM: Robert Weber 
Deputy Director

SUBJECT: Recordation of Values and Property Descriptions for Seized
Intellectual Property Products

As many of you are aware, intellectual property theft is an ICE investigative priority and has become an area of considerable interest for the Office of the Assistant Secretary, the Department of Homeland Security, Congress, and the President and Vice President. As a result, it is important that ICE's leading role in the intellectual property (IP) arena is accurately reported and properly recognized. To accomplish this, the Office of Investigation (OI) must establish a consistent standard for recording all the information related to the seizure and the value of IP items seized as a result of our enforcement activity. This standardization will allow us to effectively represent all the great work our men and women are doing in the field.

In reviewing recent seizure records associated with ICE intellectual property investigations, the National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center (IPR Center) noted a number of varying methods currently employed when recording the value of seized IP products in SEACATS. While counterfeit merchandise is considered to be contraband with no value, many elect to enter a value to represent the seized items. A review of seizure entries for Fiscal Year 2010 reflects values ranging from \$0 to \$2 per item, to the estimated domestic value, to the estimated manufacturer's suggested retail price (MSRP). This variance does not allow for an accurate representation of OI's investigative successes.

The IPR Center's review found four additional fields not being consistently utilized by OI on (b) (7)(E) seizure reports. The four fields are Section of Law/Violation Code, Property Category, Property Type Code, and Country-of-Origin.

(b) (7) (E)

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Any questions or requests for assistance should be referred to IPR Center Program Manager (b)(6) (7)(C) at 703-603-(b)(6) (7)(C) or (b)(6) (7)(C) @dhs.gov.

Attachment