

## U.S. POWER OF ATTORNEY REQUIREMENTS

The main U.S. Customs regulations regarding Power of Attorney requirements are found in the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Title 19, Part 141.31.

After those regulations were originally published, Customs began requiring brokers to make additional notifications to importers ...

### **19 CFR 111.29**

(b) Notice to client of method of payment—(1) All brokers must provide their clients with the following written notification:

If you are the importer of record, payment to the broker will not relieve you of liability for customs charges (duties, taxes, or other debts owed CBP) in the event the charges are not paid by the broker. Therefore, if you pay by check, customs charges may be paid with a separate check payable to the “U.S. Customs and Border Protection” which will be delivered to CBP by the broker.

(2) The written notification set forth in paragraph (b)(1) of this section must be provided by brokers as follows:

(i) On, or attached to, any power of attorney provided by the broker to a client for execution on or after September 27, 1982; and

(ii) To each active client no later than February 28, 1983, and at least once at any time within each 12-month period after that date. An active client means a client from whom a broker has obtained a power of attorney and for whom the broker has transacted customs business on at least two occasions within the 12-month period preceding notification.

### **19 CFR 111.36**

Relations with unlicensed persons.

(a) Employment by unlicensed person other than importer.

When a broker is employed for the transaction of customs business by an unlicensed person who is not the actual importer, the broker must transmit to the actual importer either a copy of his bill for services rendered or a copy of the entry, unless the merchandise was purchased on a delivered duty-paid basis or unless the importer has in writing waived transmittal of the copy of the entry or bill for services rendered.

(b) Service to others not to benefit unlicensed person.

Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (c) of this section, a broker must not enter into any agreement with an unlicensed person to transact customs business for others in such manner that the fees or other benefits resulting from the services rendered for others inure to the benefit of the unlicensed person.

(c) Relations with a freight forwarder.

A broker may compensate a freight forwarder for referring brokerage business, subject to the following conditions:

(1) The importer or other party in interest is notified in advance by the forwarder or broker of the name of the broker selected by the forwarder for the handling of his Customs transactions;

(2) The broker transmits directly to the importer or other party in interest:

(i) A true copy of his brokerage charges if the fees and charges are to be collected by or through the forwarder, unless this requirement is waived in writing by the importer or other party in interest; or

(ii) A statement of his brokerage charges and an itemized list of any charges to be collected for the account of the freight forwarder if the fees and charges are to be collected by or through the broker;

(3) No part of the agreement of compensation between the broker and the forwarder, nor any action taken pursuant to the agreement, forbids or prevents direct communication between the importer or other party in interest and the broker; and

(4) In making the agreement and in all actions taken pursuant to the agreement, the broker remains subject to all other provisions of this part.

#### **19 CFR 111.24 Records confidential.**

The records referred to in this part and pertaining to the business of the clients serviced by the broker are to be considered confidential, and the broker must not disclose their contents or any information connected with the records to any persons other than those clients, their surety on a particular entry, and the Field Director, Regulatory Audit Division, the special agent in charge, the port director, or other duly accredited officers or agents of the United States, except on subpoena by a court of competent jurisdiction.

The full U.S. Code of Federal Regulations can be found at the following website:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/browse/collectionCfr.action?collectionCode=CFR>