

Ron de Lugo Federal Bldg & Courthouse
5500 Veterans Drive, Rm. 248
St. Thomas, VI 00802



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

August 23, 2005
BON 1-04 FO:ST:CBP:APD

**NOTICE #2005 - 15
Virgin Islands Area Port**

TO: Surety Companies, Importers, Customs Business Services, and Others
Concerned

FROM: Area Port Director
Virgin Islands

SUBJECT: Validity of Surety Bonds for Duties Owed to the United States Virgin
Islands (USVI)

Following a review of the validity of the CBPF 301 'Customs Bond,' it has come to our attention that current bond liabilities for the Activity Code 1 continuous bond do not include the territory of the United States Virgin Islands (USVI.) Therefore, effective immediately, all CBPF 301 "Customs Bonds" must have a bond rider attached for importations into the USVI. The bond rider will be necessary to secure payment of duties, taxes and fees owed to Customs & Border Protection in the USVI.

The following wording shall be set forth and appear on each rider for attachment to all bonds:

In addition to the conditions appearing in the bond dated _____ in the amount of _____ executed by _____, as principal, and _____, as surety, to which this stipulation relates, it is hereby expressly agreed by the principal and surety therein that the words "United States" whenever used in this bond to mean the Customs territory of the United States, shall include the Virgin Islands.

Importers currently in possession of Activity Code 1 continuous bonds, or its predecessor, previously processed, either in the USVI or in the continental United States and/or Puerto Rico, and use the bond in the USVI, must have a rider attached. The new rider, properly executed by the surety company, must be presented to the Entry Control Branch offices in St. Croix or St. Thomas no later than **COB September 14, 2005**.

A copy of bond, along with the rider must be presented to the CBP Officer for the release of goods. **All bond usage and privileges, for those importers who have not submitted the appropriate rider by September 14th, will be temporarily suspended until such time as the rider is presented to CBP. Failure to submit the required rider will result in all bond usage being terminated.**

New CBPF 301 Bonds

Port personnel are no longer involved in the processing of new Activity Code 1 continuous bonds and will not resolve any issues with the new bonds. All new CBPF 301 bonds must have this rider attached upon presentation to CBP for processing, as indicated below.

The entire bond application package must be submitted to the Custom & Border Protection's Revenue Division. Filers may send the applications with attachments via email to CBP_BONDQUESTIONS@DHS.GOV or via fax to (317) 614-4517. The bond application package may also be mailed to:

Customs & Border Protection
6650 Telecom Dr., Suite 100
Indianapolis, IN 46278
ATTN: Bond Team

Once the filer receives the processed bond, it is your responsibility to ensure that the Entry Control Branch in St. Croix or St. Thomas receives a copy of the executed rider. Additionally, a copy of the newly executed bond and rider must be presented to the CBP Officer for the clearance of all cargo.

No Activity Code 1 continuous CBPF 301 bonds, or its predecessor, will be accepted in the United States Virgin Islands for the clearance and release of cargo after September 14th. In the event the bond rider is not received by the aforementioned date, all cargo will be released upon the presentation of a 'Live Entry/Entry Summary' only.

Please ensure that this procedure is implemented immediately. Should you require any additional information regarding this matter, please contact Mrs. S Supervisory Entry Control Officer at (340) 774-2510 ext. 225.

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