

## United States Customs Service, Treasury

## § 103.2

103.26 Procedure in the event of a demand for Customs information in a state or local criminal proceeding.

103.27 Procedure in the event of a demand for Customs information in a foreign proceeding.

### Subpart C—Other Information Subject to Restricted Access

103.31 Information on vessel manifests and summary statistical reports.

103.32 Information concerning fines, penalties, and forfeitures cases.

103.33 Release of information to foreign agencies.

103.34 Sanctions for improper actions by Customs officers or employees.

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 301, 552, 552a; 19 U.S.C. 66, 1624; 31 U.S.C. 9701.

Section 103.31 also issued under 19 U.S.C. 1431;

Section 103.33 also issued under 19 U.S.C. 1628;

Section 103.34 also issued under 18 U.S.C. 1905.

SOURCE: T.D. 81-168, 46 FR 32565, June 24, 1981, unless otherwise noted.

### § 103.0 Scope.

This part governs the production/disclosure of agency-maintained documents/information requested pursuant to various disclosure laws and/or legal processes. Thus, the extent of disclosure of requested information may be dependent on whether the request is pursuant to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), as amended (5 U.S.C. 552), the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (5 U.S.C. 552a), and/or under other statutory or regulatory authorities, as required by administrative and/or legal processes. The regulations for this part contain a discussion of applicable fees for the search, duplication, review, and other tasks associated with processing information requests pursuant to the FOIA, and also provide for the appeal of agency decisions and sanctions for the improper withholding and/or the untimely release of requested information. As information obtained by Customs is derived from a myriad of sources, persons seeking information should consult with the appropriate field officer before invoking the formal procedures set forth in this part. These regulations supplement the regulations of the Department of the Treasury regarding public access to records, which are

found at 31 CFR part 1, and, in the event of any inconsistency between these regulations and those of the Department of the Treasury, the latter shall prevail. For purposes of this part, the Office of the Chief Counsel is considered a part of the United States Customs Service.

[T.D. 96-36, 61 FR 19838, May 3, 1996, as amended by T.D. 99-27, 64 FR 13675, Mar. 22, 1999]

### Subpart A—Production of Documents/Disclosure of Information Under the FOIA

#### § 103.1 Public reading rooms.

Each office listed below will maintain a public reading room or public reading area where the material required to be made available under 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(2) and this part may be inspected and copied:

United States Customs Service (Headquarters), 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20229

Boston, 10 Causeway Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02222

New York, 6 World Trade Center, New York, New York 10048

Chicago, Room 1501, 55 East Monroe Street, Chicago, Illinois 60603

Miami, 99 S.E. 5th Street, Miami, Florida 33131

New Orleans, Canal-LaSalle Building, Rm. 302, 423 Canal St., New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

Houston, 5850 San Felipe, Houston, Texas 77057

Los Angeles, New Federal Building, 300 N. Los Angeles Street, Los Angeles, California 90012.

The reading rooms are open to the public during regular business hours unless other hours are posted, Monday through Friday of each week, exclusive of national holidays. A fee for copies of requested material is charged in accordance with § 103.10.

[T.D. 81-168, 46 FR 32565, June 24, 1981, as amended by T.D. 83-209, 48 FR 45544, Oct. 6, 1983; T.D. 95-77, 60 FR 50019, Sept. 27, 1995; T.D. 99-27, 64 FR 13675, Mar. 22, 1999]

#### § 103.2 Information available to the public.

(a) *General.* The Freedom of Information Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. 552), provides for access to information and

### § 103.3

### 19 CFR Ch. I (4-1-02 Edition)

records developed or maintained by Federal agencies. Subject only to the exemptions set forth in §103.12, the public generally or any individual member is entitled to information or records which are described in paragraph (b) of this section and which are in the possession of the United States Customs Service. Access to that information is governed by the regulations in this part.

(b) *Three categories of information available.* Generally, 5 U.S.C. 552 divides agency information into three major categories and provides methods by which each category is available to the public. The three major categories, for which the disclosure requirements of the United States Customs Service are set forth in this part, are as follows:

(1) Information required to be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER (see §103.3).

(2) Information required to be made available for public inspection and copying or, in the alternative, to be published and offered for sale (see §103.4).

(3) Information required to be made available to any member of the public upon specific request (see §103.5).

#### **§103.3 Publication of information in the Federal Register.**

(a) *Requirements.* Subject to the application of the exemptions described in §103.12 and subject to the limitations provided in paragraph (b) of this section, the United States Customs Service is required, by 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(1), to separately state, publish and keep current in the FEDERAL REGISTER for the guidance of the public the following information:

(1) Descriptions of its central and field organization and the established places at which, the persons from whom, and the methods whereby, the public may obtain information, make submittals or requests, or obtain decisions.

(2) A statement of the general course and method by which its function are channeled and determined, including the nature and requirements of all formal and informal procedures available.

(3) Rules of procedure, descriptions of forms available and the places at which forms may be obtained, and instruc-

tions as to the scope and contents of all papers, reports, or examinations.

(4) Substantive rules of general applicability adopted as authorized by law, and statements of general policy or interpretations of general applicability formulated and adopted by it.

(5) Each amendment, revision, or repeal of matters referred to in paragraphs (a) (1) through (4) of this section.

(b) *Limitations*—(1) *Incorporation by reference* in the FEDERAL REGISTER. Matter reasonably available to an affected class of persons, whether published by a private organization or an agency of the United States, is published in the FEDERAL REGISTER for purposes of paragraph (a) of this section when it is incorporated by reference in the FEDERAL REGISTER with the approval of the Director of the Federal Register. Any matter which is incorporated by reference must be set forth in the privately- or publicly-printed document substantially in its entirety and not merely summarized or printed as a synopsis. There can be no incorporation by reference in the FEDERAL REGISTER of any matter where only a few persons having a special working knowledge of the activities of the United States Customs Service are familiar with its location and scope. The provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(1) and 1 CFR part 20 control any incorporation of matter by reference.

(2) *Effect of failure to publish.* Except to the extent that a person has actual and timely notice of the terms of any matter referred to in paragraph (a) of this section which is required to be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER, that person is not required in any manner to resort to, or be adversely affected by, that matter if it is not published or incorporated by reference. That is, any matter which imposes an obligation and which is not published or incorporated by reference can not adversely change or affect a person's rights.

#### **§103.4 Public inspection and copying.**

(a) *In general.* Subject to the application of the exemption described in §103.12 the United States Customs Service is required, by 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(2) and §§174.32 and 177.10 of this chapter,