

§ 158.26

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

value of comparable injured merchandise, such comparison to be made as of the time and place of examination.

§ 158.26 Loss or theft in public stores.

In the case of alleged loss or theft while the merchandise is in the public stores, there shall be filed a declaration of the importer, owner, or ultimate consignee that he did not receive the merchandise and that to the best of his knowledge and belief it was lost or stolen as alleged in the application. If the alleged loss or theft consisted of only a part of an examination package and was discovered after the release of the package from Customs custody, the following evidence shall be submitted:

(a) A declaration of each cartman, lighterman, or other carrier handling the package between the public stores and the place of delivery, setting forth the condition of the package at the time of receipt and delivery by him and whether or not there was an abstraction of the merchandise while the package was in his possession.

(b) A declaration of the person who first received the package for the importer, owner, or ultimate consignee as to whether or not he examined the package at the time of receipt, and, if so, as to its condition at that time.

(c) A declaration of the person who opened the package after release from Customs custody that the alleged missing merchandise was not found by him in the package or elsewhere.

§ 158.27 Accidental fire or other casualty.

In the case of injury or destruction by accidental fire or other casualty, the following evidence shall be submitted:

(a) A declaration of the master of the vessel, the conductor or driver of the vehicle, the proprietor of the warehouse, or other person (except a Customs officer) having charge of the merchandise at the time of casualty, stating:

(1) The time, place, and nature of such casualty;

(2) That the merchandise was on board the vessel or vehicle, in the warehouse, or otherwise in his charge,

as the case may be, at the time of the casualty; and

(3) That it was totally destroyed and there is no probability of recovering or saving any part thereof, or that it was injured as the result of the casualty.

(b) The bill of lading, the entry summary (where appropriate) and the invoice covering the merchandise, or certified copies of the foregoing, unless such documents are already in the possession of the director of the port where the claim is filed.

(c) A copy of the insurance appraiser's report, if any.

[T.D. 72-258, 37 FR 20171, Sept. 27, 1972, as amended by T.D. 79-221, 44 FR 46829, Aug. 9, 1979]

§ 158.28 Waiver of evidence.

The port director may waive the production of any of the evidence required by this subpart if the validity of the claim is otherwise established to his satisfaction.

§ 158.29 Decision by port director.

When the application and evidence have been received and examined by the port director, he shall determine whether the desired abatement or refund of duty shall be made and notify the importer of his decision.

§ 158.30 Review of port director's decision.

(a) *Filing of petition.* The importer may file with the port director a petition addressed to the Commissioner of Customs for a review of the port director's decision. Such petition shall be filed in duplicate within 30 days from the date of the notice of the port director's decision, shall completely identify the case, and shall set forth in detail the objections to the port director's decision.

(b) *Decision by Commissioner.* When the petition has been filed, the port director shall promptly transmit both copies thereof and the entire file to the Commissioner, together with a full statement of his views. When the Commissioner's decision is received, the port director shall proceed in conformity therewith.