

§ 575.511

(1) The name and address of any Iraqi broker, purchasing agent, or other participant in the sale of goods or services exported to Iraq; and an explanation of the facts and circumstances surrounding the entry into and execution of the transaction; and

(2) A notarized statement by the applicant certifying that no ownership interest greater than five (5) percent is held by the Government of Iraq or an Iraqi person in the beneficiary of the letters of credit, or if such interest exists, the name, address and ownership interest of the Government of Iraq entity or Iraqi person holding such interest.

(c) This section does not authorize exportation or the performance of services after the effective date pursuant to a contract entered into or partially performed prior to the effective date.

(d) Transactions conducted under specific licenses granted pursuant to this section must be reported in writing to the Office of Foreign Assets Control, Blocked Assets Section, no later than 10 days after the date of payment.

(e) Separate criteria may be applied to the issuance of licenses authorizing payment from an account of or held by a blocked U.S. bank owned or controlled by the Government of Iraq.

§ 575.511 Extensions or renewals authorized.

(a) The extension or renewal, at the request of the account party, of a letter of credit or a standby letter of credit issued or confirmed by a U.S. financial institution is authorized.

(b) Transactions conducted pursuant to this section must be reported to the Office of Foreign Assets Control, Blocked Assets Section, within 10 days after completion of the transaction.

§ 575.512 [Reserved]

575.513 Transactions related to telecommunications authorized.

All transactions of U.S. common carriers with respect to the receipt and transmission of telecommunications involving Iraq are authorized, provided that any payment owed to the Government of Iraq or persons in Iraq is paid into a blocked account in a U.S. financial institution.

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§ 575.514 Transactions related to mail authorized.

All transactions by U.S. persons, including payment and transfers to common carriers, incident to the receipt or transmission of mail between the United States and Iraq are authorized, provided that mail is limited to personal communications not involving a transfer of anything of value and not exceeding 12 ounces.

§§ 575.515-575.516 [Reserved]

§ 575.517 Procedures established for export transactions initiated prior to effective date.

Goods awaiting exportation to Iraq on the effective date and seized or detained by the U.S. Customs Service on the effective date or thereafter may be released to the exporter, provided the following documents are filed with Customs officials at the port where such goods are located:

(a) A copy of the contract governing the exportation (sale or other transfer) of the goods to Iraq or, if no contract exists, a written explanation of the circumstances of exportation, including in either case a description of the manner and terms of payment received or to be received by the exporter (or other person) for, or by reason of, the exportation of the goods;

(b) An invoice, bill of lading, or other documentation fully describing the goods; and

(c) A statement by the exporter substantially in the following form:

Any amount received from or on behalf of the Government of Iraq by reason of the attempted exportation of the goods released to [name of exporter] by the U.S. Customs Service on [date], and fully described in the attached documents, has been or will be placed into a blocked account in a U.S. bank and the Office of Foreign Assets Control, Blocked Assets Section, will be immediately notified. [Name of exporter] agrees to fully indemnify the U.S. Government for any amount ultimately determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be due or payable to or for the benefit of any person by reason of the failure of [name of exporter] to properly pay into a blocked account any amount received for the goods from or on behalf of the Government of Iraq. [Name of exporter] also agrees to

waive all claims (1) against any payments received and placed into a blocked account, except as may be later authorized by law, regulations, or license, and (2) against the U.S. Government with regard to the disposition of the amounts placed into a blocked account.

The statement should be dated and signed by the exporter or by a person authorized to sign on the exporter's behalf. The Customs Service may release the goods to the exporter upon receipt of the documentation and statement described above, provided it is satisfied that all customs laws and regulations have been complied with, including the execution of such hold harmless assurances as it shall determine to be appropriate. The documentation and statement received by Customs will be forwarded to the Office of Foreign Assets Control for review and appropriate action.

§ 575.518 Certain standby letters of credit and performance bonds.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, payment into a blocked account in a U.S. financial institution by an issuing or confirming bank under a standby letter of credit in favor of a beneficiary that is the Government of Iraq or a person in Iraq is prohibited by § 575.201 and not authorized, notwithstanding the provisions of § 575.503, if:

(1) The account party is a U.S. person; and

(2)(i) A specific license has been issued pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (b) of this section, or

(ii) 10 business days have not expired after notice to the account party pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) Whenever an issuing or confirming bank shall receive such demand for payment under such a standby letter of credit, it shall promptly notify the account party. The account party may then apply within five business days for a specific license authorizing the account party to establish a blocked account on its books in the name of the Iraqi beneficiary in the amount payable under the credit, in lieu of payment by the issuing or confirming bank into a blocked account and reimbursement therefor by the account party. Nothing in this section relieves any such bank or such account party from giving any notice of defense

against payment or reimbursement that is required by applicable law.

(c) Where there is outstanding a demand for payment under a standby letter of credit, and the issuing or confirming bank has been enjoined from making payment, upon removal of the injunction, the account party may apply for a specific license for the same purpose and in the same manner as that set forth in paragraph (b) of this section. The issuing or confirming bank shall not make payment under the standby letter of credit unless:

(1) 10 business days have expired since the bank has received notice of the removal of the injunction, and

(2) A specific license issued to the account party pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph has not been presented to the bank.

(d) If necessary to assure the availability of the funds blocked, the Director of the Office of Foreign Assets Control may at any time require the payment of the amounts due under any letter of credit described in paragraph (a) of this section into a blocked account in a U.S. financial institution or the supplying of any form of security deemed necessary.

(e) Nothing in this section precludes the account party on any standby letter of credit or any other person from at any time contesting the legality of the demand from an Iraqi beneficiary or from raising any other legal defense to payment under the standby letter of credit.

(f) This section does not affect the obligation of the various parties to the instruments covered by this section if the instruments and payments thereunder are subsequently unblocked.

(g) The section does not authorize any U.S. person to reimburse a non-U.S. bank for payment to a Iraqi beneficiary under a standby letter of credit, except by payments into a blocked account in accordance with § 575.503 or paragraph (b) or (c) of this section.

(h) A person receiving a specific license under paragraph (b) or (c) of this section shall certify to the Office of Foreign Assets Control within 5 business days after receipt of that license that it has established the blocked account on its books as provided in those paragraphs. However, in appropriate