

**Subpart C—Disposition of Petitions****§ 172.21 Decisions effective for limited time.**

A decision to mitigate a penalty or to cancel a claim for liquidated damages upon condition that a stated amount is paid will be effective for not more than 60 days from the date of notice to the petitioner of such decision unless the decision itself prescribes a different effective period. If payment of the stated amount is not made or a petition or a supplemental petition is not filed in accordance with regulation, the full penalty or claim for liquidated damages will be deemed applicable and will be enforced by promptly transmitting the matter, after required collection action, if appropriate, to the appropriate office of the Chief Counsel for preparation for referral to the Department of Justice unless other action has been directed by the Commissioner of Customs. Any such case may also be the basis for a sanction action commenced in accordance with regulations in this chapter.

**§ 172.22 Decisions not protestable.**

(a) *Mitigation decision not subject to protest.* Any decision to remit or mitigate a penalty or cancel a claim for liquidated damages upon payment of a lesser amount is not a protestable decision as defined under the provisions of 19 U.S.C. 1514. Any payment made in compliance with any decision to remit or mitigate a penalty or cancel a claim for liquidated damages upon payment of a lesser amount is not a charge or exaction and therefore is not a protestable action as defined under the provisions of 19 U.S.C. 1514.

(b) *Payment of mitigated or cancellation amount as accord and satisfaction.* Payment of a mitigated or cancellation amount in compliance with an administrative decision on a petition or supplemental petition for relief will be considered an election of administrative proceedings and full disposition of the case. Payment of a mitigated or cancellation amount will act as an accord and satisfaction of the Government claim. Payment of a mitigated or cancellation amount will never serve as a bar to filing a supplemental petition for relief.

**Subpart D—Offers in Compromise****§ 172.31 Form of offers.**

Offers in compromise submitted pursuant to the provisions of section 617 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1617), must expressly state that they are being submitted in accordance with the provisions of that section. The amount of the offer must be deposited with Customs in accordance with the provisions of § 161.5 of this chapter.

**§ 172.32 Authority to accept offers.**

The authority to accept offers in compromise, subject to the recommendation of the General Counsel of the Treasury or his delegee, resides with the official having authority to decide a petition for relief, except that authority to accept offers in compromise submitted with regard to penalties secured by a bond or claims for liquidated damages which are the subject of a letter to show cause issued to a surety in anticipation of possible action involving nonacceptance of bonds authorized under the provisions of part 113 of this chapter will reside with the designated Headquarters official who issued the show cause letter.

**§ 172.33 Acceptance of offers in compromise.**

An offer in compromise will be considered accepted only when the offeror is so notified in writing. As a condition to accepting an offer in compromise, the offeror may be required to enter into any collateral agreement or to post any security which is deemed necessary for the protection of the interest of the United States.

**Subpart E—Supplemental Petitions for Relief****§ 172.41 Time and place of filing.**

If the petitioner is not satisfied with a decision of the deciding official on an original petition for relief, a supplemental petition may be filed with the Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures Officer having jurisdiction in the port where the violation occurred. The petitioner must file such a supplemental petition within 60 days from the date of notice to the petitioner of the decision

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from which further relief is requested or within 60 days following an administrative or judicial decision with respect to issues serving as the basis for the claim for liquidated damages (whichever is later) unless another time to file such a supplemental petition is prescribed in the decision. A supplemental petition may be filed whether or not the mitigated amount designated in the decision on the original petition is paid.

**§ 172.42 Supplemental petition decision authority.**

(a) *Decisions of Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures Officers.* Supplemental petitions filed on cases where the original decision was made by the Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures Officer, will be initially reviewed by that official. The Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures Officer may choose to grant more relief and issue a decision indicating additional relief to the petitioner. If the petitioner is dissatisfied with the further relief granted or if the Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures Officer decides to grant no further relief, the supplemental petition will be forwarded to a designated Headquarters official assigned to a field location for review and decision.

(b) *Decisions of Customs Headquarters.* Supplemental petitions filed on cases where the original decision was made by the Chief, Penalties Branch, Office of Regulations and Rulings, Customs Headquarters, will be forwarded to the Director, International Trade Compliance Division, for review and decision.

(c) *Authority of Assistant Commissioner.* Any authority given to any Headquarters official by this part may also be exercised by the Assistant Commissioner, Office of Regulations and Rulings, or his designee.

**§ 172.43 Waiver of statute of limitations.**

The deciding Customs official always reserves the right to require a waiver of the statute of limitations executed by the charged party or parties as a condition precedent before accepting a supplemental petition in any case in which less than one year remains before the statute will be available as a defense to all or part of that case.

**19 CFR Ch. I (4-1-03 Edition)**

**PART 173—ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW IN GENERAL**

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AUTHORITY: 19 U.S.C. 66, 1501, 1520, 1624.

SOURCE: T.D. 70-181, 35 FR 13429, Aug. 22, 1970, unless otherwise noted.

**§ 173.0 Scope.**

This part deals with the general authority of review, the authority to reliquidate voluntarily, the authority to correct for clerical error, mistake of fact, or other inadvertence under section 520(c)(1), Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, the authority to review an entry of household or personal effects, and the power to reliquidate an entry on account of fraud.

**§ 173.1 Authority to review for error.**

Port directors have broad responsibility and authority to review transactions to ensure that the rate and amount of duty assessed on imported merchandise is correct and that the transaction is otherwise in accordance with the law. This authority extends to errors in the construction of a law and to errors adverse to the Government as well as the importer.

[T.D. 70-181, 35 FR 13429, Aug. 22, 1970, as amended by T.D. 79-221, 44 FR 46830, Aug. 9, 1979]

**§ 173.2 Transactions which may be reviewed and corrected.**

The port director may review transactions for correctness, and take appropriate action under his general authority to correct errors, including those in appraisement where appropriate, at the time of:

(a) Liquidation of an entry;

(b) Voluntary reliquidation completed within 90 days after liquidation;