



November 2025 - Info Expeditior

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Events Around the Bay

- [P.A.E.I](#) - Professional Association of Exporters and Importers
www.paei.org.
- [OWIT NC](#) - Organization of Women in International Trade Check website for updates
- [Monterey Bay International Trade Association \(MBITA\)](#) - Monterey Bay International Trade Association Check Website for updates
- [Norcal W.T.C.](#) - The Northern California World Trade Center Check Website for updates
- [PTA](#) - Pacific Transportation Association

CBFANC President's Letter

Sung Wook Lee, President



Sung Wook Lee, CBFANC President

Government shutdown

Last newsletter your dear leader bravely predicted the future by saying that the government shutdown would last about 2 weeks before democrats cave in. It has been 2 weeks and looks like we may be in for more.

As President Trump continues to break the democrat coalition by paying off the military, perhaps the farmers soon and other groups as he is so good at undermining, is a way to move the narrative to 'who is to blame' game to the democrats if they don't do something quickly.

Trump tax cuts back in his first term is what is causing much of this budget deficit and much could be resolved differently if it never happened.



WESCCON 2025

[Check Website for updates](#)

CBFANC Board of Directors

President - Director:

Sung (John) Lee

Chairperson of the Board:

Evey Hwang

1st VP - Director:

Felicia Addison

2nd VP - Director:

Lori Azzoparri

3rd VP - Director:

Chris Kammer

Treasurer:

Chris Garcez

Secretary:

Evey Hwang

Director:

Peter Gong

Director:

Liz Chapman

Director:

Mindy Li

Director:

Sarah Stroth

Director:

Eric Bingham

Senior Advisor:

Chris Ramos

Secretariat:

Debbie Edwards

Going into this year's WESCCON Conference, it did occur to me, what would WESCCON be without CBP and all the Partner Government Agencies that attend our conference? I am happy to report, and it seems to be the consensus from the attendees that we got everything we wanted from the conference, Sandy Coty, Karen Quintara, Patty Tschape provided great leadership and we had the best panelists for our education requirements. And big shout out to Pat Vantang and our Evey Hwang for programming.



Paul Bingham

Director, Transportation Consulting, S&P
Global Market Intelligence

Saturday breakfast keynote speaker was Paul Bingham from S&P Global – Director of Transportation, a well respected economist.

One of the biggest questions of the conference was “will the Supreme Court strike down IEEPA.” Personally, I will be listening to the arguments from both parties and the questions from the justices to the attorneys. But I did put the question to Mr. Paul Bingham at S&P Global on what his best guess was, it is not the position of S&P global, but his own thoughts on the matter. Let me make that disclaimer clear. But he was generous enough to say that it is more than 50% that it will be struck down. So then the question is **REFUND** and what are Customs Brokers going to do to get the refunds to their clients. Possibly Post Summary Corrections (PSCs) and Protests, but President Trump has already mentioned he may redistribute as tax refunds or use it to bail out farmers. I for one will steel myself, get myself to PCC-Mission to Washington DC and lobby my congressional members for the refund to importers.

Lastly, we have our Holiday party coming up at Kincaid's Fish, Chops & Steaks on December 4th in Burlingame and our State of the Port on January 29, 2026, at a new hotel, Westin, Burlingame. Please sign up early.

CBFANC Social Media

Please connect with us!

- [X Formerly Twitter - @cbfanc](#)
- [LinkedIn - Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association of Northern California \(CBFANC\) | Groups | LinkedIn](#)
- [Facebook - CBFANC](#)

Accelerate Trade Update

Ray Bucheger, Partner Accelerate Strategies



Ray Bucheger, Partner, Accelerate Strategies

Hello:

It's been another newsy week. Here are some quick hits to take you into the weekend. We will discuss all this and more on the Tuesday call.

Section 232 Tariffs: Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles, Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicle Parts, and Buses

President Trump is imposing Section 232 tariffs on imports of medium- and heavy-duty trucks and buses on November 1.

- Duties on medium- and heavy-duty trucks will be 25%. There is an exemption for trucks and truck parts that qualify for USMCA preference.
- Duties on buses will be 10%.

Original documents:

- The Proclamation can be [here](#).
- The fact sheet can be found [here](#)
- The Federal Register notice can be found [here](#)

Section 301 Investigation: Nicaragua

USTR issued the results of a Section 301 investigation into Nicaragua's acts, policies, and practices related to labor rights, human rights, fundamental freedoms, and the rule of law, concluding there have been extensive violations that constitute an unreasonable burden on U.S. commerce.

The original investigation was initiated under the Biden Administration in December 2024 in response to mounting evidence of systemic repression by the Ortega-Murillo regime.

Following its determination, the USTR announced potential responses under Section 301, including:

- Suspension or withdrawal of some or all CAFTA-DR trade benefits for Nicaragua.
- Imposition of up to 100% additional duties on some or all imports from Nicaragua.

These measures could be enacted immediately or phased in over a period of time up to 12 months.

Original documents:

- The Federal Register Notice can be found [here](#).
- The USTR Report is available [here](#)
- Comments can be submitted [here](#). Comments are due November 19, 2025.

Section 301 Investigation: China

USTR launched a new Section 301 investigation into China's

trade practices, potentially paving the way for more tariffs on Chinese goods. USTR will examine whether China has fully implemented its commitments under the Phase One Agreement, the burden or restriction on U.S. commerce resulting from any non-implementation by China of its commitments, and what action, if any, should be taken in response.

- The investigation follows on the President's threat to impose a 100% tariff on Chinese goods on November 1 in response to Chinese export controls.
- The investigation was launched only days before high-level meetings in Malaysia between U.S. and Chinese officials.
- The previously instituted deadline for the United States and China to conclude a trade deal before IEEPA tariffs escalate is November 10, 2025.

Original documents:

- The Federal Register Notice on the initiation of the investigation can be found [here](#).
- Comments can be submitted [here](#) starting October 31 through December 1.
- A docket for requests to appear at the public hearing to be held in connection with this investigation will open on October 31 and be available [here](#). The public hearing will be on December 16.

Trade Negotiations with Canada

President Trump pushed out a Truth Social Post on Thursday in which he announced that trade negotiations with Canada are "terminated" in response to an ad being run in the U.S. by the province of Ontario. We are awaiting further news on this.

Avalon Risk Management WESCCON Scholarship Winner - Yuheng Zhang

Meet Avalon scholarship winner, and member of CBFANC, pictured here after winning the Labubu prize at the WESCCON 2025 raffle drawing.



Yuheng (Lucas) Zhang, CCS, is a Customs Compliance & Operations Assistant at Great Way Trading & Transportation Inc., where he specializes in entry filing, HTS classification, ISF 10+2 filings, and data entry review.

With a strong focus on bridging technical compliance and effective communication in both English and Mandarin, Lucas supports cross-functional coordination in a fast-paced, just-in-time logistics environment. He holds a B.A. in Film & Media

Studies from EU Irvine and an M.S. in Public Relations from NYU. His global perspective is shaped by time spent in Chiang Mai, Thailand, on a trading venture, and he is actively involved in CBFANC and PCC, with a particular interest in CTPAT and real-world trade operations. Originally from Heibei, China, Lucas enjoys golf, snowboarding, basketball, and diving.

CBFANC Board of Director Elections

CBFANC Association

We are excited and grateful for the slate of candidates seeking your vote for the 2026 Board of Directors. Board Directors term is for three years.

The CBFANC Board of Directors asks the Professional membership Primary member for their vote. An email has been sent out. If you haven't received it, please check your spam folder.

Please make sure to cast your vote by December 3, 2025.



CBFANC election results will be announced at our annual meeting aka members holiday party on December 4, 2025 at Kincaid's in Burlingame.

Holiday Party & Annual Meeting

CBFANC Program Committee



Time to Get Ready and Celebrate!

FRIENDS • FUN • FOOD • RAFFLE • LAUGHS

CBFANC cordially invites you to our 2025

Holiday Happy Hour and Annual Membership Meeting

Please join us in-person for our annual meeting with the current CBFANC Board of Directors.

We'll announce the winners of the 2026 year elections and see members and colleagues of our community to celebrate the holidays!

We look forward to seeing and celebrating with you!

Remember to bring an unwrapped toy to benefit Toys for Tots and get a free raffle ticket!

**Thursday, December 4, 2025
4:00pm-7:00pm
Kincaid's Fish, Chop & Steakhouse**

60 Bay View Place
Burlingame, CA 94010

Tickets:
Members: \$50.00
Guests: \$65.00

Enjoy festive hors d'oeuvres and cocktails!
Plus a chance to win Raffle Prizes!

[Register Here:](#)

An Invitation to Sponsor

CBFANC Program Committee



An Invitation to Sponsor our "Holiday Happy Hour" Event

**December 4, 2025
4:00-7:00pm**

Kincaid's Fish, Chop & Steakhouse
60 Bay View Place
Burlingame, CA 94010

The holidays are just around the corner and CBFANC is getting into the Holiday Spirit! We are incredibly excited to celebrate this great event and enjoy a spectacular time to be had by all.

Through your sponsorship, you are supporting an organization that works to benefit its members through continued education and improved service standards. In addition, the association is dedicated to keeping its members current on issues affecting our industry. Sponsor this holiday event and assure your company's direct exposure to old friends and potential new customers by creating a festive positive memory.

Here are ways to support and be recognized:

**Sponsor – Platinum \$1,500 includes 2 attendees
Sponsor – Diamond \$1,000 includes 2 attendees
Sponsor – Gold \$750 includes 1 attendee
Sponsor – Silver \$500
Sponsor – Bronze \$250**

**All sponsorships include exposure on our website and signage at the event.
Do not miss out – secure your spot as a primary sponsor.**

**Call us at 510-864-2233 or Email
to info@cbfanc.org about any questions.**

[Sponsors Register Here!](#)



TIN # 66531250 - Reminder: Accurate Reporting of Steel and Aluminum Content and Quantities per CSMS #65236374 and CSMS #65236645

Courtesy of U.S. Customs & Border Protection

Machinery Center

This is a reminder to ensure strict compliance with the reporting guidance outlined in CSMS #65236374 and CSMS #65236645 regarding Section 232 duties on steel and aluminum articles and their derivatives. Accurate reporting of steel and aluminum content and quantities is essential to avoid potential errors, under-collection of duties, and enforcement actions by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP).

Key Reporting Requirements:

- **Proper Reporting of Steel and Aluminum Content and Quantities:**
 - For steel and aluminum articles and their derivative products classified in Chapter 73 (steel) and Chapter 76 (aluminum), the applicable Section 232 duty is assessed only on the value of the steel or aluminum content.
 - If the value of the steel or aluminum content is unknown or the same as the entered value, report the duty based on the entire entered value and only on one entry line.
 - If the steel or aluminum content value is less than the entered value, report the non-steel/aluminum and steel/aluminum content on separate entry summary lines with the appropriate classifications and quantities.
 - Avoid duplicating quantities when splitting entry lines for steel/aluminum and non-steel/aluminum content.
- **Mandatory Melt, Pour, Smelt, and Cast Reporting Requirements:**
 - For steel articles, importers must report the country of melt and pour using the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) code. For steel derivatives, report the ISO code where the steel was melted or "OTH" (for other countries).
 - For aluminum articles, importers must report the primary country of smelt, secondary country of smelt, or country of most recent cast using the ISO code. Filers must report "Y" for primary country of smelt and/or secondary country of smelt. Aluminum manufactured only from recycled aluminum must be substantiated with manufacturing documents upon request.
- **Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) Entries:**

- Steel and aluminum articles and their derivative products entered into a U.S. FTZ must be granted "privileged foreign status" and reported under the applicable HTS classifications.
- Smelt and cast reporting requirements also apply to aluminum goods admitted into a U.S. FTZ and withdrawn for consumption.
- **Duties for Aluminum from Russia:**
 - The 200 percent duty on aluminum products and derivative aluminum products from Russia remains in effect. These duties apply to the entire value of the imported good.
- **Application of Reciprocal Tariffs:**
 - Non-steel/aluminum content of an article reported on a separate line per the instructions above is subject to Reciprocal tariffs under HTS 9903.01.25. Steel/aluminum content subject to Section 232 duties is not subject to Reciprocal tariffs under HTS 9903.01.33.
- **Reporting Multiple HTS Numbers:**
 - For entry summary lines that include multiple HTS numbers, CBP requires that the duty be appropriately associated with the correct HTS. Duties across several required HTS numbers on a given entry summary line must not be combined and cannot be reported on only one HTS within the entry summary line.

CBP expects full compliance from the trade community for accurate reporting and payment of additional duties. Failure to adhere to these guidelines may result in enforcement actions, including documentation reviews, cargo examinations, and other corrective measures.

For questions regarding Section 232 entry filing, please contact the Trade Remedy Branch at TradeRemedy@cbp.dhs.gov. If you encounter any errors in filing an entry summary, contact your CBP client representative or the ACE Help Desk.

Thank you for your cooperation in ensuring accurate and compliant reporting practices.

Important Update: Changes to FDA Import Communications

Courtesy of U.S. Food and Drug Administration

The FDA is announcing new communication channels for our import community.

FDA's Office of Import Operations will no longer distribute information through CBP's Cargo Systems Messaging Service (CSMS). Instead, FDA will implement direct messaging to stakeholders through FDA's automated notification system. To continue receiving these email notifications, no action is necessary.

Important updates will also be posted on our Imports News & Events page found here: [Imports News & Events | FDA](#).

For general information, please continue to visit www.fda.gov/imports.

You are receiving this notification because of your import history with FDA. To unsubscribe, use the link below.

Thank you for being part of our import community.

NCBFAA's NVOCC Day

Courtesy of NCBFAA

Please join us for NCBFAA's NVOCC Day 2026!

January 22, 2026 10 am – 4 pm, Port of New Orleans

Registration required for NVOCC Day at
<https://bit.ly/NVOCCDay2026>
NCBFAA Member Rate \$100 / Nonmember Rate \$125. Lunch provided.
Email sbailey@ncbfaa.org for information

Imagine facing a hefty \$115,000 penalty, just because your shipments were handled by unlicensed or unregistered agents of the FMC. This happened in June 2023 to a company that was not following the FMC rules. The consequences of non-compliance didn't end there. An audit in early 2024 uncovered similar violations, resulting in an additional \$50,000 fine and the appointment of an independent monitor to oversee the company's practices for a full year.

Not understanding your compliance can lead to substantial financial penalties, and repeated violations can result in even greater scrutiny and additional fines. Therefore, regulated entities must proactively ensure compliance with all statutory and regulatory obligations. Don't wait for penalties and oversight to force your hand—take action now to avoid costly mistakes. Do you rely upon agents in other countries to obtain your buy rates? Are you vetting your agents to confirm if they are compliant to FMC as licensed or registered? If not, this could happen to you!

We are delighted to invite you to NCBFAA's NVOCC Day 2026, an event designed to enhance your understanding and skills in the maritime and logistics industry and minimize those above risks. This event promises to keep you informed about the latest industry developments, including the Ocean Shipping Reform Act (OSRA) of 2022 and 2024, and potential changes to detention and demurrage billing allowances. In today's fast-paced maritime industry, Non-Vessel-Operating Common Carriers (NVOCCs) face several risks that demand vigilant attention and proactive management.

These risks include:

- Relationship with Agents: Understanding regulatory obligations and the risks of engaging unvetted agents.
- Benefits of Negotiated Rate Agreements (NRA): Minimizing risks through proper utilization with fewer limitations than Rate Filing.
- House Bill of Lading: Assessing the risks associated with its use.
- FMC Regulatory Audits: Preparing for unexpected audits.
- Insightful discussions on liabilities, common errors, and legal implications.

Registration required for NVOCC Day at:
<https://bit.ly/NVOCCDay2026>

Event Highlights: January 22, 2026 10 am – 4 pm, Port of New Orleans

- Network with industry experts and peers.
- Gain valuable insights into the latest trends and best practices.
- Enhance your professional skills and knowledge.
- Access exclusive resources and support from the NCBFAA.

Registration required for NVOCC Day at
<https://bit.ly/NVOCCDay2026>
NCBFAA Member Rate \$100 / Nonmember Rate \$125. Lunch provided.
Email sbailey@ncbfaa.org for information.

**Save the Date: CBFANC's State of the Port
Dinner Program - 2026**

CBFANC Program Committee



CBFANC's

State of the Port Dinner Program

**Thursday, January 29, 2026
Featuring keynote speaker from Customs**

**NEW Location:
Westin San Francisco Airport
1 Old Bayshore Hwy, Millbrae, CA 94030**

Technology and Social Media Committee

Chris Kammer, Tech & Social Media Committee



Chris Kammer, Technology & Social Media Chair

Make sure to follow CBFANC on LinkedIN



[Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association of Northern California \(CBFANC\) | Groups | LinkedIn](#)

CBFANC Needs YOU!

Join a CBFANC COMMITTEE



CBFANC Needs YOU!!

Please feel free to contact us with your feedback, ideas and topics that should be considered.

Whether you're a legal eagle or proverbial party animal, editor and journalist, nerd or geek - we have a spot for you!

Join one of our committees where you can put your talents and interest to use for the betterment of the organization and our community.

Travel to Washington and lobby for causes important to our industry and the security of our country.

Dreaming of improving standards in our trade - join our Education team:

- Go to WESCCON - The premier international trade event in the country!
- Write that expose you always dreamed - join the Newsroom
- Always wanted to hob-knob with the who's who in the trade - join The Agency or Customs
- Are you a graphic designer at heart - come to the virtual side of things on our web committee

To learn more about our wonderful committees and find an area you would like to volunteer for, please click [here](#). As always, any questions at all, please reach out to us at info@cbfanc.org. Thank you!