

**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY**

**U.S. Customs and Border Protection**

**[1651-0131]**

**Agency Information Collection Activities:**

**e-Allegations Submission**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Department of Homeland Security.

**ACTION:** 30-Day Notice and request for comments; Extension of an existing collection of information.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection will be submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA). The information collection is published in the *Federal Register* to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. Comments are encouraged and must be submitted (no later than [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]) to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain) . Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review - Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional PRA information should be directed to Seth Renkema, Chief, Economic Impact Analysis Branch, U.S.

Customs and Border Protection, Office of Trade, Regulations and Rulings, 90 K Street NE, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Washington, D.C. 20229-1177, Telephone number 202-325-0056 or via email [CBP\\_PRA@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:CBP_PRA@cbp.dhs.gov). Please note that the contact information provided here is solely for questions regarding this notice. Individuals seeking information about other CBP programs should contact the CBP National Customer Service Center at 877-227-5511, (TTY) 1-800-877-8339, or CBP website at <https://www.cbp.gov/>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** CBP invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on the proposed and/or continuing information collections pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*). This proposed information collection was previously published in the *Federal Register* (85 FR 39206) on June 30, 2020, allowing for a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments. This process is conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.8. Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies should address one or more of the following four points: (1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) suggestions to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) suggestions to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses. The comments that are submitted will be summarized and included in the

request for approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

**Overview of this Information Collection:**

**Title:** e-Allegations Submission

**OMB Number:** 1651-0131

**Form Number:** None

**Current Action:** CBP proposes to extend the expiration date of this information collection. The time burden hours have been adjusted to account for the addition of the EAPA Allegations that have been added to this collection.

**Type of Review:** Extension (with change)

**Affected Public:** Businesses, Individuals

**Abstract:** U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) established the e-Allegations program in June 2008 to create a central location for the public to report allegations of trade law violations. The information provided by the public enables CBP, in collaboration with our partners, to protect our economy from the effects of unfair trade practices and guard against the entry of products that could pose a threat to health and safety. The information collected through the portal includes the name individual filing the allegation (this individual may remain anonymous), their contact information, and information pertinent to the allegation of a trade law violation.

This collection of this information is authorized by the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C.1202 *et seq.*), the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Title 6, U.S.C. 101), and the Security and Accountability for Every Port Act of 2006 ["SAFE Port Act"] (Pub. L. 109-347, Oct. 13, 2006). The e-Allegations website is accessible at <https://www.cbp.gov/trade/e-allegations/>.

Congress passed the Enforce and Protect Act (“EAPA”), in February 2016, as a part of the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act (“TFTEA”) of 2015 (Pub. L. 114-125, Feb. 24, 2016). The EAPA legislation specifically was intended to improve trade law enforcement and duty collection for antidumping and countervailing duty orders, thus helping to create a level-playing field for U.S. businesses. To that end, CBP designed an investigative process that provides for a multi-party, transparent, on-the-record administrative proceeding, where parties can both participate in and learn the outcome of the investigation.

The information collected through the EAPA allegation submissions portal includes the following: filer category, name of individual filing the allegation and their contact information, the name and address of the company they represent, and their interested party designation; information related to the alleged evasion scheme, including products, type of scheme and AD/CVD Order information; the name and address of the company engaging in the alleged evasion scheme; and various certifications regarding the truthfulness of the allegation and how notifications about how the information will be used during the investigation.

The EAPA Allegation form has been modified from the original version to provide clarifying information which validates that the allegation qualifies as an EAPA allegation. Additions to the form include alleged and violating importer email and phone number, optional representing attorney contact information, and selecting the type of violation and the corresponding details. The updated form also requires users to upload at least one document to the allegation submission and select a document category in addition the existing classification for confidentiality status. Users will have the option to select

additional categories including document date and if a document has been served after upload. Harmonized Tariff Schedule product categories and questions that would make an allegation non-qualifying for an EAPA allegation have been removed and replaced by system validations or additional instructions.

Collection of information for an EAPA investigation is authorized by the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19, U.S.C. 1517), Section 421 of the TFTEA (Pub. L. 114-125, Feb. 24, 2016), and 19 CFR 165. The EAPA portal is accessed through the e-Allegations website at <https://eallegations.cbp.gov/Home/Index2>.

### **e-Allegations**

**Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,088**

**Estimated Number of Annual Responses per Respondent: 1**

**Estimated Number of Total Annual Responses: 1,088**

**Estimated Time per Response: 15 minutes**

**Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 272**

### **EAPA Allegations**

**Estimated Number of Respondents: 67**

**Estimated Number of Annual Responses per Respondent: 1**

**Estimated Number of Total Annual Responses: 67**

**Estimated Time per Response: 15 minutes**

**Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 17**

Dated: September ##, 2020

Seth D. Renkema,  
Branch Chief, Economic Impact Analysis Branch

## U.S. Customs and Border Protection