



US Government Shutdown Update: January 14th, 2019

Midnight December 21st, 2018, the US government was partially shut down due to an increased political crisis. On Saturday January 12th, 2019 this partial shutdown became the longest in US history.

The shutdown affects more than 800,000 federal workers in nine different departments, as well as several federal agencies.

This includes the departments of Homeland Security, Justice, Agriculture, Treasury, Interior, Transportation, Commerce, Environmental Protection Agency, Housing and Urban Development.

Airfreight Export and Import

Currently there are not significant delays related to operations. The TSA advised that effect is minimal and they are asking for their officers to show at work as they are deemed essential.

So far the only effects are longer passenger lines at airports waiting to pass checkpoints. As of today, January 14th, TSA has canceled training for hundreds of workers as it drags on.

Seafreight Export and Import

The FMC is working as normal. Rate filing can be completed electronically and currently there are no delays.

Based on feedback from shipping lines there are currently no issues on the waterways except for APM Terminals on the EAST Coast of the US which have been experiencing significant delays due to the holidays closures and the government shutdown.

Customs and Border Protection (CBP)

For reference, please see following statement just issued by Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to the National Customs Brokers and Forwarder Associations of America (NCBFAA).

As a follow-up email to today's trade call update, U.S Customs and Border Protection (CBP) had this to say in regards to the hours of operation at our Ports of Entry:

"U.S Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Officers remain steadfastly on duty to safeguard commerce despite the lapse in appropriations. Our vital frontline activities continue without a reduction in the service that is provided to our stakeholders. CBP has equitably accommodated all additional requests by marine terminals to ensure the economic security of the United States by facilitating legitimate trade. The men and women of CBP have been and will remain dedicated to our mission of securing the Homeland."

The NCBFAA appreciates CBP's commitment to keeping our ports safe and secure and we will continue to work diligently with them to keep trade moving.

If you have urgent cargo that needs to be expedited, please speak to your local Röhlig account manager.