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McV ALERT

Puerto Rico Ports Authority to Impose Inbound Containers' Fees

The Puerto Rico Ports Authority intends to approve a new <u>Container Inspection System Regulation</u> aimed at regulating the scanning of inbound containers and imposing an inspection fee of up to \$71.00 dollars per container that enters Puerto Rico through the San Juan Port. According the Authority, every container will be scanned upon arrival to San Juan and before leaving the port facilities. The ship's or vessel's agent will be responsible for paying the fees, and late fees will be imposed if not paid immediately.

According to the Authority, the scanning system, which will be administered by a private contractor, will use non-intrusive technology with the capacity of scanning up to 100% of the inbound closed cargo containers entering the San Juan Port facilities not previously selected and scanned by the U.S. Custom Border Protection. Inspection lanes will be located at selected locations at the maritime port facilities and the Authority will reserve the right to determine the amount of containers to be inspected in each inspection lane.

Public hearings to receive comments concerning the proposed regulation will be conducted by the Authority on Friday, January 21, 2011. Click on the links to view the references to the regulations and <u>public hearing procedures</u>.

Should you have any questions please contact the following attorneys:

Carlos E. Serrano	787.250.5698	ces@mcvpr.com
Dora M. Peñagarícano	787.250.5657	dmp@mcvpr.com
Rafael Fernández Suárez	787.250.5629	rfs@mcvpr.com
José R. Nadal Power	787.250.2634	inp@mcvpr.com

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