

June 2026



Freight Forwarders & Brokers

Newsletter

Your Expert Source for News on Logistics Industry Issues

New York New Jersey Foreign Freight Forwarders and Brokers Association, Inc. provides industry insights and promotes dialogue among members to help inform their businesses and advance their success. This newsletter is designed to furnish information on our association initiatives and events, as well as updates on national and regional issues that impact our industry with commentary prepared by subject matter experts.

<https://nynjforwarders-brokers.org>



National News

Update on IEEPA Duty Refunds

On Feb. 20, 2026 SCOTUS issued a favorable court decision holding that POTUS could not use IEEPA to collect tariffs. That case was sent back to the CIT to create a remedy. The CIT selected a different case as the vehicle for working out a remedy and directed CBP to return IEEPA duties to all importers. CBP told the CIT that it could not stop the regular liquidation process, but that it would create a program--Consolidated Administration and Processing of Entries (CAPE)—to mass process refund requests for IEEPA duties for importers who paid those duties. Read more about this program which has begun in phases. (Article submitted by: Robert B. Silverman, Esq, Partner, GDLSK)

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<https://nynjforwarders-brokers.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/IEEPA-World.pdf>

FMC Sends a Clear Message: Two Record-Breaking Penalties Against Ocean Carriers Signal a New Era of Enforcement

Over \$68 million in combined awards — issued within months of each other — reflect the FMC sharpest enforcement posture in its history. Members who deal with ocean carriers should take note. So should NVOCCs and freight forwarders.

Within a span of four months, the Federal Maritime Commission issued the two largest penalties in the agency's history — one against Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC) and one against Orient Overseas Container Line (OOCL). Together, they represent a fundamental shift in how seriously the FMC is taking Shipping Act enforcement, and they carry direct lessons for every member of this Association. (Article submitted by: Julia Bonestroo Banegas, Special Counsel, Jones Walker LLP)

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<https://nynjforwarders-brokers.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/FMC-Sends-a-Clear-MESage.pdf>

Events

Board of Governors Upcoming Elections at Annual Meeting

We recently formed a Nominating Committee to prepare the Slate of Board Members to next lead our association. We will elect three board members to serve three-year terms, and the slate will be presented at our annual meeting and luncheon on June 17. As per the bylaws, the Slate for the Board of Governors will be published to the membership at least 15 days prior to the election. Matt Brauner, Bill Skinner, and Charlene Riley are serving on the Nominating Committee.

Our member meeting will be held at Fornos of Spain in Newark, NJ from 12-2 pm. In addition to the election, the event includes guest speakers from the U.S. Customs & Border Protection, as well as reports from our officers and legal counsel. For more info:

<https://nynjforwarders-brokers.org/member-meeting-luncheon/>

CBP's Shift Toward Enforcement: What Importers Need to Know in 2026

Over the past 18–24 months, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has visibly shifted its operational posture toward heightened trade enforcement, with trade facilitation increasingly taking a secondary role. This change is being felt across the importing community—from small businesses to multinational supply chains—and is driven by a combination of policy priorities, new technology, and evolving global risks. For local importers and trade participants, understanding this shift is no longer optional - it is essential to maintaining compliant and uninterrupted operations. On June 3, President Trump issued an executive order in a further action towards strengthen customs enforcement. (Article submitted by: William Brauner, Brauner Intl Corp, and VP of Imports NYNJFFBA)

MEMBERS, PLEASE LOGIN TO READ MORE <https://nynjforwarders-brokers.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/CBPs-Shift-Toward-Enforcement.pdf>

Regional News

Impending Sale of Maher Terminals Generates Global Buyer Interest

The impending sale of Maher Terminals, the largest terminal at the Port of New York and New Jersey, has attracted wide interest from potential buyers, including global operators, with reportedly active discussions underway. The Maher facility stretches over 450 acres and is responsible for approximately one third of container capacity and market share within the port. According to the *Journal of Commerce*, "The Maher sale isn't just any transaction. It's the premier terminal property in the heart of the world's second largest metropolitan region by GDP, as well as a dominant player within a strategically located port that over several years has held its own among competitors." The *Wall Street Journal* reports that Maher Terminals, which is owned by Macquarie Asset Management, could sell for more than \$3 billion. The new lease for the property will commence in 2030 and extend through September 2063.

Empty Imbalance Fee at Port of New York and New Jersey Stirs Concerns

The Port of New York and New Jersey instituted a container imbalance fee (or empty box fee) to penalize ocean carriers for leaving excessive empty containers at marine terminals and nearby depots. The fee, which went into effect on May 1, is \$100 per excess empty container and this fee is assessed through a calculation of whether carriers are moving more outgoing containers when compared to incoming containers within a specified period. If the carrier meets the requirement set, the carrier can avoid the fee.

The empty imbalance fee is designed to reduce the amount of idle equipment at the port which can create more storage needs, and cause congestion and truck volume. Advocates say this fee is necessary to compensate the port and to provide an incentive to carriers to more swiftly clear empty containers. Others argue the fee mechanics are "deeply flawed." For recent commentary from Robert Cannizzaro, executive director of the Ocean Carrier Equipment Management Association, please visit this relevant article:

<https://www.joc.com/article/the-high-cost-of-a-flawed-port-container-fee-in-ny-nj-6217261>

CBP Office of Trade's Enforcement Operations Division Hosting Free Webinars

U.S. Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) Office of Trade's Enforcement Operations Division is hosting the following free webinars in late June as a part of their quarterly series. Topics include Trade Violations Reporting and the Enforce and Protect Act.

These webinars are part of CBP's Continuing Education Program. The number of credits and credit code will be provided at the end of the webinar. To register, click on the registration link for the coordinating webinar below. All registrants will receive the access link for the webinar the day before the event, but entry into the webinar is on a first-come, first-served basis as seats are limited. These webinars will not be uploaded to the webinar website, however other previously recorded webinars will be available for replay at [Trade Outreach Webinars | U.S. Customs and Border Protection \(cbp.gov\)](#). For questions, please contact OTRwebinars@cbp.dhs.gov

Tuesday, June 23, 2026 at 1:30 p.m. ET: [Trade Violations Reporting TVR \(Q2\)](#) – This webinar will provide an overview of the TVR portal and how to file a trade violation with CBP.

Thursday, June 25, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. ET: [Enforce and Protect Act \(EAPA\) \(Q2\)](#) – This webinar will provide an overview of the EAPA process and how to file an EAPA allegation with CBP.

Contact Us

The New York/New Jersey Foreign Freight Forwarders & Brokers Association, Inc. is one of the oldest transportation related organizations in the U.S. Founded in 1917, the association provides information on issues and developments important to its members.

NY/NJ Foreign Freight Forwarders & Brokers Association, Inc.

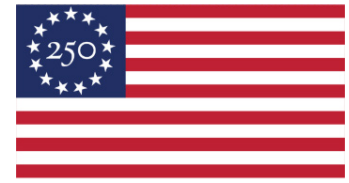
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NYC Celebrates America's 250th with Largest-Ever Flotilla of Tall Ships and Naval Vessels

The Port of New York and New Jersey is assisting with the planning of "the greatest celebration in our nation's history," as New York prepares to host the main attraction of the Sail4th 250 Celebration. This extraordinary maritime event on July 4 will be a grand Parade of Sail featuring the largest assembled flotilla of tall ships from around the world, as well as an International Naval Review with U.S. and Allied naval vessels.

The events from July 3- July 7, 2026, involve 43 majestic tall ships representing more than 20 countries along with U.S. and foreign naval vessels. These ships will anchor in New York Harbor and the Hudson River on July 2-3 with the Parade of Sail and International Naval Review being held on July 4. More than 140 aircraft will fly in formation over the Parade of Sail, with a show by the U.S. Navy Blue Angels and the U.S. Army Golden Knights. For more information on locations and the schedule of events, visit <https://sail4th.org/>



Freedom 250

Association News

Joe Pirozzi Memorial Lobsterfest & Annual Transportation Networking Event

This popular event, to be held on Thursday, June 11 at Windward Beach Park in Brick, New Jersey, is a relaxed afternoon with colleagues savoring lobster, clams, shrimp, chicken, salad, and more. Network under the sun (hopefully) with your guests and industry peers, participate in our bocce tournament, toss horseshoes and cornhole bags, or simply sit back and enjoy our live music. This day was named for our late Secretary/Treasurer and long-time board member, Joe Pirozzi, who hatched the idea for this networking event. This is a rain-or-shine event held from 1-6 pm (our open-air tent will be in place). To register, please visit:

<https://nynjforwarders-brokers.org/events/the-joe-pirozzi-memorial-lobsterfest-and-15th-annual-transportation-networking-event/>



Lothar Kledstadt Scholarship Award Competition Essay Entries Due by June 12

The Scholarship Committee looks forward to receiving entries for this year's essay contest offering a \$5,000 scholarship to the winner. This year's essay topic is "What Impact will the Duty Refunds (IEEPA) have on the U.S. Economy and Trade Going Forward?" Essays must be between 850-1,200 words and submissions are due by 5:00 pm on Friday, June 12, 2026. The 30th Annual Lothar Kledstadt Memorial Scholarship is sponsored by NY/NJ Foreign Freight Forwarders & Brokers Association. The Scholarship Committee will notify the winner of this competition by 5 pm on June 15.

We will accept applications from employees of firms that are members of the association, their spouses and children who live and work in the membership area. Essay entries must be submitted by students who are currently enrolled in a college program or are new students pursuing a college degree (high school senior or older). For more information, visit our website or contact 732-741-1936. Submissions and the required form (which can be found on our website), can be emailed to: scholarship@nynjforwarders-brokers.org



15th Annual Dinner Cruise at Liberty Harbor Marina

Don't miss a magnificent night onboard the Cornucopia Destiny on June 24th for our annual dinner cruise at the Liberty Harbor Marina co-hosted by NYNJFF&BA and TCNY (Traffic Club of New York). Spend four hours (6-10 pm) with industry colleagues on this luxury liner with dinner provided as well as an open bar, DJ, and dance floor. Individual dinner cruise tickets are \$225. A big association thank you to our platinum, gold, and supporter sponsors for helping to underwrite this great evening. The dress code is business casual, and please don't be late for our 6 pm sharp boarding. Parking at the marina is \$10 and payable upon arrival at the booth. For more information and to register for this event, please visit <https://nynjforwarders-brokers.org/dinner-cruise-2026/>

