



U.S. Customs and Border Protection

December 13, 2024

CERTIFIED – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Chesapeake Detention Facility
ATTN: Rodney Burton Inmate# 71926-083
401 East Madison Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

SPECIAL MAIL
OPEN ONLY IN THE
PRESENCE OF THE INMATE
(28 CFR 540.18 & 28 CFR 540.19).

Re: Case Number 2025-1703-000029-01

Dear Sir/Madam:

This is to notify you that U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP") seized the property described below at Savannah, Georgia on November 19, 2024.

1 each 2022 Rolls Royce Cullinan, VIN: SLATV8C08NU214816

The appraised domestic value of the property is \$436,500.00.

The property was seized and is subject to forfeiture under the provisions of 22 U.S.C. § 401 and 19 U.S.C. § 1595a(d) for violation of 15 C.F.R. § 30.7 and 15 C.F.R. § 764.2(g), which prohibits the exportation of merchandise that is not properly described/documented on the Shippers Export Declaration ("SED") and the Automated Export System ("AES"). More specifically, the 2022 Rolls Royce Cullinan, VIN: SLATV8C08NU214816 is considered unmanifested as it was omitted from AES and was not documented in the export documentation provided to CBP.

Furthermore, the property was seized and is subject to forfeiture under the provisions of 22 U.S.C. § 401, 19 U.S.C. § 1595a(d), and 15 C.F.R. § 30.71(b)(4) for violation of 15 C.F.R. § 30.6(a)(17). Specifically in this case, AES contained false or misleading EEI as the value of the vehicle was not included in the total manifested amount in AES. The total value of the export was falsely reported with a value of \$6,400.00, whereas if the exporter had appropriately included the value of the 2022 Rolls Royce Cullinan and the 2023 Mercedes Benz AMG (which was determined to be stolen) the approximate total value would have been \$626,046.00 based on the average trade-in value per NADA. The exporter grossly disvalued the EEI to CBP.

Please note, the 2023 Mercedes Benz AMG, VIN: W1NYC7HJ4PX477038 was turned over to Georgia Ports Authority Police Department.

The facts available to CBP indicate that you may have an interest in the seized property. The purpose of this letter is to advise you of the options available to you concerning this seizure. An important document – the "Election of Proceedings" form is enclosed with this letter. You must choose **ONE** of the four options outlined below, indicate your choice on the "Election of Proceedings" form by checking the appropriate box, and return that form, along with any other

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necessary documents, to CBP within the allotted time frame. Should you choose to abandon the property, please still complete the "Election of Proceedings" form and return it to CBP. A Notice of Seizure and Intent to forfeit has also been published on www.forfeiture.gov and, if appropriate, in a conspicuous place accessible to the public at the customhouse or Border Patrol sector office nearest the place of seizure on approximately the date of this letter.

Your options are as follows:

1. **PETITION (BOX 1):** You may file a petition with this office within 30 days from the date of this letter in accordance with Title 19, United States Code (U.S.C.), Section 1618 (19 U.S.C. §1618) and Title 19, Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.), Sections 171.1 and 171.2 (19 C.F.R. §§ 171.1, 171.2), seeking remission or mitigation of the forfeiture; in other words, the return of some or all of your property. The petition does not need to be in any specific form, but it must describe the property involved, identify the date and place of the seizure, include all the facts and circumstances which you believe warrant the return of your property, and must include proof of your interest in or claim to the property. Examples of proof of interest include, but are not limited to a car title, loan agreement, or documentation of the source of funds. If you choose this option, you must check **BOX 1** on the "Election of Proceedings" form.

By completing **BOX 1** on the "Election of Proceedings" form, you are requesting that CBP review your petition and decide whether to accept your petition, in full or in part, or deny your petition altogether. You are also requesting that CBP halt any forfeiture proceedings after publication of the Notice of Seizure, if they have already commenced. However, if CBP has already referred the matter to the United States Attorney for the institution of judicial forfeiture proceedings, CBP will forward your petition to that U.S. Attorney for consideration.

At any point prior to the forfeiture of the property, you may request that CBP refer the matter to the U.S. Attorney for judicial action. *Please see option 4 of this letter for information on how to request judicial action.* If you request judicial action after filing a petition for relief, CBP will not take further action on your petition and will treat it as withdrawn. If upon receipt of your petition, the matter has already been referred to the U.S. Attorney for judicial action, your petition will be forwarded to that U.S. Attorney for consideration.

If you choose to file an administrative petition and are dissatisfied with the CBP's decision regarding your petition (initial or supplemental), you will have an additional 60 days from the date of the initial petition decision, or 60 days from the date of the supplemental petition decision, or such other time as specified by the Fines, Penalties and Forfeitures Officer to file a claim to the property, along with the required cost bond, requesting referral of the matter to the U.S. Attorney's Office for judicial action. *Please see option 4 of this letter for information on how to request judicial action.* If you do not act within these time frames, CBP may forfeit the property to the United States, as authorized by law.

A FALSE STATEMENT OR CLAIM MAY SUBJECT A PERSON TO PROSECUTION UNDER TITLE 18, U.S.C., SECTION 1001 AND/OR 1621, AND MAY BE PUNISHABLE BY A FINE AND IMPRISONMENT
(ATT 8-B Revised October 2014)

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2. **OFFER IN COMPROMISE (BOX 2):** Within 30 days, you may file an offer in compromise in accordance with Title 19, U.S.C., Section 1617 (19 U.S.C. § 1617) and Title 19, C.F.R., Sections 161.5 and 171.31 (19 C.F.R. §§ 161.5, 171.31). The offer must specifically state that you are making it under the provisions of 19 U.S.C. § 1617. If you are offering money in settlement of the case, you must include payment (bank draft, cashier's check or certified check, drawn on a U.S. financial institution, and made payable to CBP) in the amount of your offer. Any money submitted will be returned to you if your offer is rejected. If you choose this option, you must check **BOX 2** on the "Election of Proceedings" form.

If you chose to submit an offer in compromise and are dissatisfied with CBP's decision, you will have an additional 30 days from the date of that decision to file a claim and bond requesting a referral to the U.S. Attorney for judicial action. *Please see option 4 of this letter for information on how to request judicial action.* If you do not act within the 30 days, CBP may forfeit the property to the United States, as authorized by law.

At any point prior to the issuance of CBP's offer in compromise decision, you may request that CBP refer the matter to the U.S. Attorney's Office for judicial action. *Please see option 4 of this letter for information on how to file a claim and cost bond.* If you take such action, CBP will consider your offer to be withdrawn.

If CBP has already referred the matter to the U.S. Attorney's Office for judicial action and subsequently receives your offer, CBP will forward your offer to that U.S. Attorney's Office for consideration as appropriate.

3. **ABANDON (BOX 3):** You may choose to abandon the property or state that you have no claim or interest in it. If you choose this option, please check **BOX 3** on the "Election of Proceedings" form. The Government may proceed with forfeiture proceedings or address claims from other interested parties concerning the property, without further involving you.
4. **JUDICIAL ACTION (BOX 4):** You may request that CBP refer this matter to the U.S. Attorney, for the commencement of a judicial forfeiture proceedings against the property in federal court, by notifying the office identified in this letter, in writing, that you do not intend to file a petition or offer in compromise with CBP or post the value of the merchandise to obtain its release on payment (see below). If you choose this option, you should check **BOX 4** on the "Election of Proceedings" form, and you must submit to CBP (at the address provided at the end of this letter) a claim **within 20 days** along with a cost bond in the penal sum of \$5,000 or 10 percent of the value of the claimed property, whichever is less, but in no case shall the amount of the bond be less than \$250.00.

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If you file the claim and bond, CBP will promptly refer the matter to the appropriate U.S. Attorney's Office for the institution of judicial proceedings in Federal court to forfeit the seized property in accordance with 19 U.S.C. § 1608 and 19 C.F.R. § 162.47. You may then file a petition for relief with the Department of Justice pursuant to 28 C.F.R. Part 9. Failure to submit a bond with the claim will render the request for judicial proceedings incomplete, and therefore, defective. This means that the case will NOT be referred to the appropriate U.S. Attorney's Office. If you wish the Government to seek judicial forfeiture proceedings but cannot afford to post the bond, contact the Fines, Penalties and Forfeitures Officer or Asset Forfeiture Officer of CBP, as applicable, so that CBP can make a determination of your financial ability to pay the bond. If a determination of inability to pay is made, the cost of the bond may be waived in its entirety. The case will be referred promptly and you may then file a petition for relief with the Department of Justice pursuant to 28 C.F.R. Part 9.

Take No Action: If you choose to do nothing, CBP may seek to forfeit the property. In order to obtain forfeiture, CBP must publish a Notice of Seizure and Intent to Forfeit for 30 consecutive days, and after that time the Government acquires full title to the seized property. The first notice will be posted on approximately the date of this letter.

For property appraised in excess of \$5,000, CBP will post Notice of Seizure and Intent to Forfeit on the internet at www.forfeiture.gov for 30 consecutive days.

For property appraised at \$5000 or less, CBP will post Notice of Seizure and Intent to Forfeit in a conspicuous place accessible to the public at the customhouse or Border Patrol sector office (where appropriate) nearest the place of seizure as well as on the internet at www.forfeiture.gov for 30 consecutive days.

Release on Payment: If the seized merchandise is not prohibited by law from entry into the United States, you may, within 30 days of this letter, request the return of this merchandise. This request must be accompanied by a bank draft, cashier's check or certified check, drawn on a U.S. financial institution, and made payable to CBP or an irrevocable letter of credit equal to the full amount or appraised value of the seized merchandise in accordance with 19 U.S.C. § 1614 and 19 C.F.R. § 162.44.

If CBP accepts your offer to substitute release of the seized property on payment, the property will be immediately released, and the payment or letter of credit will be substituted for the seized property. You may still submit a petition, offer in compromise, or file a claim and cost bond requesting that the matter be referred to the U.S. Attorney's Office for judicial action, and you must still check the appropriate box on the "Election of Proceedings" form. The decision letter on your offer to substitute payment for the seized property will provide you with the deadlines for those options.

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If CBP has already referred the matter to the U.S. Attorney's Office for judicial action and CBP subsequently receives your offer to substitute, CBP will forward your offer to that U.S. Attorney's Office for consideration.

Holder of a Lien or Security Interest: If you are a holder of a lien or security interest, you may choose any of the above options listed. No relief will be granted to you until after forfeiture, unless your petition, offer, or request is accompanied by: (1) an agreement to hold the United States, its officers and employees harmless; and (2) a release from the registered owner and person from whom the property was seized.

All accompanying documents, including supporting documents, must be in the English language or accompanied by an English language translation and submitted in duplicate.

No matter which box you check on the enclosed "Election of Proceedings" form, you should sign, date and return the form, along with any petition, offer in compromise, or request for judicial forfeiture action, if those documents are necessary to support the option you choose.

Important: *If you did not receive the "Election of Proceedings" form, please call the telephone number below.*

In addition to the seizure and forfeiture liability, you may be liable for a civil penalty in this matter. If you are liable for a civil penalty, details on the civil penalty are in the attached letter; or, if not attached, are being prepared and will be mailed shortly.

All correspondence should be addressed to U.S. Customs and Border Protection, One East Bay Street, Attn: FPF, Savannah, Georgia 31401. Should further information be required, contact the Fines, Penalties and Forfeitures Office at 912-447-9440 or Sav-FPF@cbp.dhs.gov. Inquiries should reference the case number.

Sincerely,

**LAUREN D
POWELL**

Digitally signed by
LAUREN D POWELL
Date: 2024.12.13
10:32:58 -05'00'

on behalf of

Tracey Marquez

Fines, Penalties & Forfeitures Officer