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A LAW FIRM SERVING A DIVERSE CLIENTELE IN IMPORT, EXPORT, AND FOREIGN TRADE ZONE LAW.

POTENTIAL MODIFICATION TO E.U. SECTION 301 DUTIES LARGE CIVIL AIRCRAFT DISPUTE **DECEMBER 9, 2019**

On December 9, 2019, the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) announced that it is seeking comments on potential modifications to the existing E.U. Section 301 duties, which are currently imposed on certain E.U. products at 10% and 25%. The potential modifications are the result of new findings of increased subsidization in the World Trade Organization (WTO) dispute proceeding concerning large civil aircraft from the E.U. The existing duties went into effect on October 18, 2019.

Currently, certain new airplanes and other new aircraft are subject to 10% additional duty and other miscellaneous products, including single-malt scotch, food products, and certain machinery tools are subject to a 25% duty. The USTR seeks comments on a potential increase of these duties to up to 100%, or a decrease or elimination of the duties. The complete list of products subject to the current E.U. Section 301 duties is provided in Annex I of the USTR notice.

In addition, the USTR seeks comments on the imposition of E.U. Section 301 duties of up to 100% on other products. Annex II of the USTR notice provides a list of additional products that include new non-military helicopters, airplanes, and aircraft parts. Also included are additional food products, wine, wooden tools, yarn, carpet, stone, base metal products, motorcycles, bicycles, clocks, etc.

The USTR requests comments on whether maintaining or imposing additional duties would be appropriate to enforce U.S. WTO rights and/or result in the E.U. complying with the WTO recommendations in the large civil aircraft dispute. Further, the USTR seeks comment on whether the imposition of these additional duties would disproportionately harm U.S. interests, including businesses and consumers.

The deadline for comments is January 13, 2020. There is no proposed effective date for the proposed additional or reduced E.U. Section 301 duties at this time.

Please contact Marshall Miller, Brian Murphy, Sean Murray, or Ryan Thornton with questions or for assistance in preparing comments.

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