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

UPDATE - PRESIDENT TRUMP TO INCREASE CHINA SECTION 301 DUTY RATES AUGUST 24, 2019

Following President Trump tweets, the USTR has posted a notice confirming that all China Section 301 duties will be increased by 5%. Effective October 1, 2019, duty rates for China Section 301 Lists 1, 2, and 3 will increase from 25% to 30%. On September 1, 2019, China Section 301 List 4A duty rates will be 15% rather than 10%. Effective December 15, 2019, China Section 301 List 4B duty rates will be set at 15% instead of 10%. The USTR will publish Federal Register notices with additional details in due course, including a notice and comment period for the Lists 1, 2, and 3 duty increases.

In a China Section 301 Frequently Asked Question document, Customs has confirmed that products admitted as Privileged Foreign (PF) status prior to the relevant effective date will not be subject to the additional duties. Accordingly, goods subject to China Section 301 admitted in PF status prior to the effective dates should be subject to rates in effect at the time of PF election. If clients have China goods classified in tariff provisions on Section 301 List 4 in FTZ on-hand inventory in Non-Privileged Foreign (NPF) status, consider immediately filing Customs e-214s to change the zone status designation to Privileged Foreign (PF) to shield the goods from Section 301 duties, particularly List 4A China goods prior to September 1, 2019. Contact us for advice and counsel on this process. Clients should also consider effective management of such China goods enroute.

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

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IMPORTS EXPORTS FOREIGN-TRADE ZONES

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