



NCBFAA

The National Customs Brokers & Forwarders Association of America, Inc.

News Release

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CBP Commissioner Speaking at the NCBFAA 2016 Government Affairs Conference

WASHINGTON – The National Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association of America, Inc. (NCBFAA) today announced that U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Commissioner R. Gil Kerlikowske will be addressing attendees at the 2016 NCBFAA Government Affairs Conference Breakfast on Tuesday, September 13 in the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill, Washington, DC. Also scheduled to speak during Monday, September 12, are CBP Executive Assistant Commissioner Brenda Smith and Federal Maritime Commission Chair Mario Cordero.

This may be the Commissioner's final appearance at a major NCBFAA event as this is his final year at the helm of the agency. During his tenure at CBP, Commissioner Kerlikowske has forged an especially strong relationship with the NCBFAA, as we have worked together to address a myriad of issues. Of special note is the transition to Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) for CBP and the Participating Government Agencies.

"We are very fortunate to be able to count the Commissioner among our speakers," said GAC Committee Chairman Gerald Becnel. "His presence reflects the importance of our membership to his agency's mission and his appreciation of our support of that mission."

2016 also witnessed the passage of the Customs Reauthorization Bill, which has brought a great number of new enforcement challenges to us both. The Commissioner will bring attendees up to date on what lies ahead for CBP and the Association.

In addition to Commissioner Kerlikowske's Tuesday speech, CBP Executive Assistant Commissioner Brenda Smith will keynote Monday's luncheon. She is expected to draw on her recent experience with the industry's move to the ACE to summarize activity to date, as well as provide her perspective on the ultimate outcome of the system rollout. Following her address, she may be able to take a few questions from the audience.

During his Tuesday morning session, "FMC Chairman's Comments to Industry," Chairman Mario Cordero will provide a look-back at the FMC's accomplishments, and a glance at the future. The past 12 months have witnessed strong engagement between the FMC and the industry. A notable example has been the FMC's behind-the-scenes role in bringing SOLAS to a more satisfactory conclusion on July 1. Additionally, the agency has published OTI regulations, which were modified during the comment process to meet the concerns of industry.

"One measure of the effectiveness of your Association is the ability to attract such accomplished individuals as these to speak at our events," said NCBFAA President Geoffrey Powell. "I would encourage members, if they can, to join us in Washington for this, the most important political event on the Association's calendar."

Headquartered in Washington, DC, the NCBFAA represents more than 1,000 member companies with 110,000 employees in international trade - the nation's leading freight forwarders, customs brokers, ocean transportation intermediaries (OTIs), NVOCCs and air cargo agents, serving more than 250,000 importers and exporters. Established in 1897 in New York, NCBFAA is the effective national voice of the industry. Through its various committees,

counsel and representatives, the Association maintains a close watch over legislative and regulatory issues that affect its members. It keeps them informed of these and other related issues through its weekly Monday Morning eBriefing, and various meetings and conferences throughout the year.



Attention: Journalists

If you would like to cover this Conference, please contact Tom Mathers, tmathers@ncbfaa.org, 202.466.0222 to arrange for your credentials.