



Press Release

The Foreign Trade Association: a leading voice in the national debate concerning demurrage, detention and per diem

Long Beach, CA – January 9, 2018: Foreign Trade Association (FTA) Chairman Cameron Roberts will be testifying before the Federal Maritime Commission (Commission) on January 16, 2018 concerning The Coalition for Fair Port Practices petition proposing that the Commission adopt a policy of just and reasonable demurrage, detention, and per diem practices by marine terminals and vessel operators. https://www.fmc.gov/tentative_schedule_witness_list_for_p4-16_hearings/. The Coalition for Fair Port Practices includes the FTA and more than twenty other associations that represent importers, exporters, drayage providers, freight forwarders, customs brokers, and third-party logistics providers.

Roberts' noted: "Demurrage, detention, and per diem charges have skyrocketed. Even when congestion and delay are beyond the control of the shipper, consignee, drayage carrier, or OTI, charges are assessed. These charges were originally intended to encourage container movement. But over time, such charges have become punitive, leading to abandonment and congestion." See a summary of Roberts' testimony at https://www.fmc.gov/assets/1/Documents/p4-16_RK_FTA_aprnc.pdf

"Detention and demurrage have become a major problem for the shipping industry and through tireless advocacy from a broad coalition, it has finally come to the forefront of the Commission's agenda. The FTA has been the leading voice on matters regarding trade and transportation for nearly 100 years, and we will continue being the voice of the trade community to protect our Beneficial Cargo Owner membership and our members who help them import and export their goods," said Weston LaBar, Executive Director of the FTA.

###

For more information please contact

Weston LaBar, FTA Executive Director: Weston@PearStrategies.com (570) 242-8429
