

## Customs Report

By Thomas Crockett • Nov 20, 2025

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A few quick updates from FDRA on our December digital sample review, forced labor stats, and recent classification decisions.

### FDRA Sample Review December 11th



Be sure to join us for our [digital sample review](#) with CBP Footwear National Import Specialist Stacey Kalkines on Thursday, December 11th (the event was moved from the original date due to the government shutdown).

**👉 Important update:** *This year’s event will provide continuing education credit for customs professionals. This FDRA event is worth 3 Continuing Education Units (CEUs)!*

**Why it matters:** Stacey is THE footwear classification decision maker at CBP, and this is a great opportunity to ask her questions in an off-the-record setting. We don’t record the sample review, so you want to be there live.

- There are more than **!** 400 ways to classify a shoe, and small changes mean a huge difference in tariff rates — and 💰 costs for companies!
- **Take note:** Please email pictures of your 👟 footwear samples to me at [tcrockett@fdra.org](mailto:tcrockett@fdra.org) ahead of the event, and we will discuss each sample with the expert panel live during the event.

**🌟 Oh, also:** CBP’s Apparel, Footwear & Textiles Center team will join us to talk about the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act (UFLPA), IP protection, and recent enforcement trends.

**Go deeper:** sign up here: [Digital Tariff & Customs Conference](#)

### Forced labor enforcement news



On November 1st, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) updated its searchable tool of Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act (UFLPA) stats.

**📊 By the numbers:** For 👕 apparel, 👟 footwear, and 🧵 textiles:

- 2331 total shipments have been detained since the law took effect. 713 (31%) have been released and 1440 (62%) have been denied entry.
- 593 shipments were detained in fiscal year 2025. 123 (21%) were released, and 340 (57%) were denied entry.
- 79 shipments have been detained so far this fiscal year. 33 (42%) have been denied entry.

**Yes, but:** The stats group footwear 👟 with apparel 👕 and textiles 🧵.

- To our knowledge, no footwear shipments have been detained as being produced in or containing materials or components from Xinjiang.
- That could still change, with the the first-ever addition of a [footwear factory](#) to the UFLPA Entity List in June 2024. This is the only footwear factory on the list.

**Go deeper:** [View the UFLPA stats](#)

### Recent classification decision



#### 🌐 NY N354200 (October 1, 2025)

- **Footwear:** woman’s, closed-toe, open-back, slip-on, clog of rubber/plastic (R/P). The clog has been molded in one piece. The upper is decorated with a printed design, a small glued on tab and perforations.
- **Classification:** The importer sought classification in 6402.99.31 (6%) on the grounds that the tab meant that the clog was not one piece. CBP disagreed and found classification in 6402.99.27 (3%) (4A).
- **Takeaway:** CBP considered the small glued on decorative tab an ancillary feature that did not exclude the clog from classification as being produced in one piece by molding. [Read more.](#)

*The FDRA Customs Report is a newsletter of customs, administrative, and other developments affecting importers of footwear, prepared as a service for FDRA members. Matters reported on or summarized herein may not be construed as legal advice on specific situations.*

Thanks for reading this month’s FDRA Customs Report. Feel free to share this newsletter with others on your team. Have a great rest of the week!

Thomas

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