§ 515.543  Proof of origin.

Specific licenses for importation of goods of Cuban origin are generally not issued unless the applicant submits satisfactory documentary proof of the location of the goods outside Cuba prior to July 8, 1963 and of the absence of any Cuban interest in the goods at all times on or since that date. Since the type of document which would constitute satisfactory proof varies depending upon the facts of the particular case, it is not possible to state in advance the type of documents required. However, it has been found that affidavits, statements, invoices, and other documents prepared by manufacturers, processors, sellers or shippers cannot be relied on and are therefore not by themselves accepted by the Office of Foreign Assets Control as satisfactory proof of origin. Independent corroborating documentary evidence, such as insurance documents, bills of lading, etc., may be accepted as satisfactory proof.

§ 515.544  Gifts of Cuban origin goods.

(a) Except as stated in paragraph (b) of this section, specific licenses are not issued for the importation of Cuban-origin goods sent as gifts to persons in the United States or acquired abroad as gifts by persons entering the United States. However, licenses are issued upon request for the return of such goods to the donors in countries other than Cuba.

(b) Specific licenses are issued for the importation directly from Cuba:

(1) Of goods which are claimed by the importer to have been sent as a bona fide gift or

(2) Of goods which are imported by a person entering the U.S., which are claimed to have been acquired in Cuba as a bona fide gift, subject to the conditions that:

(i) The goods are of small value, and

(ii) There is no reason to believe that there is, or has been since July 8, 1963, any direct or indirect financial or commercial benefit to Cuba or nationals thereof from the importation.

§ 515.545  Transactions related to information and informational materials.

(a) Transactions relating to the dissemination of informational materials are authorized, including remittance of royalties paid for informational materials that are reproduced, translated, subtitled, or dubbed. This section does not authorize the remittance of royalties or other payments relating to works not yet in being, or for marketing and business consulting services, or artistic or other substantive alteration or enhancements to informational materials, as provided in §515.206(a)(3).

(b) Specific licenses may be issued on a case-by-case basis authorizing the travel-related transactions set forth in §515.560(c) for purposes related to the exportation, importation, or transmission of information or informational materials as defined in §515.332.

Note to §515.545. With respect to transactions necessary and ordinarily incident to the publishing and marketing of manuscripts, books, journals and newspapers, see §515.577.

§ 515.546  Accounts of Cuban sole proprietorships.

Specific licenses are issued unblocking sole proprietorships established under the laws of Cuba if the proprietor has emigrated from Cuba and established residence in the United States or a country in the authorized trade territory.

§ 515.547  Research samples.

Specific licenses are issued for importation of Cuban-origin commodities for
§ 515.548 Services rendered by Cuba to United States aircraft.

Payment to Cuba of charges for services rendered by Cuba in connection with overflights of Cuba or emergency landings in Cuba by aircraft registered in the United States or owned or controlled by, or chartered to, persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction is authorized.

[77 FR 71530, Dec. 3, 2012]

§ 515.549 Bank accounts and other property of non-Cuban citizens who were in Cuba on or after July 8, 1963.

(a) Citizens of foreign countries. Specific licenses are issued unblocking the accounts and other property of non-Cuban citizens who have left Cuba, provided that they submit evidence satisfactory demonstrating that they have established residence in a foreign country in the authorized trade territory.

(b) Decedents who died in Cuba on or after July 8, 1963. Specific licenses are issued authorizing the administration of the estates of non-Cuban decedents who died in Cuba, provided that any distribution to a blocked national of Cuba is made by deposit in a blocked account in a domestic bank in the name of the blocked national.


§ 515.550 Certain vessel transactions authorized.

Unless a vessel has otherwise engaged in transactions that would prohibit entry pursuant to §515.207, §515.207 shall not apply to a vessel that is:

(a) Engaging in trade with Cuba authorized by licenses issued pursuant to §515.533 or §515.559; or

(b) Engaging in trade with Cuba that is exempt from the prohibitions of this part (see §515.206).

[64 FR 25813, May 13, 1999]

§ 515.551 Joint bank accounts.

(a) Specific licenses are issued unblocking a portion of or all of a joint bank account blocked by reason of the fact that one or more of the persons in whose names the account is held is a blocked national, where a non-blocked applicant claims beneficial ownership, as follows:

(1) Joint bank account, without survivorship provisions. Specific licenses are issued unblocking only that amount with respect to which the applicant is able to prove beneficial ownership by documentary evidence independent of his assertions of interest.

(2) Joint bank account, with survivorship provisions. Specific licenses are issued unblocking an amount equivalent to that portion of the total amount to which the applicant would be entitled if the total were divided evenly among the persons in whose names the account is held (e.g. 50 percent where there are two names; 33⅓ percent where there are three names). Such licenses generally are issued on the basis of applicant’s assertions of beneficial ownership interest without the requirement of independent evidence.

(3) Joint bank account in the names of a husband and wife, with survivorship provision. Specific licenses are issued unblocking portions of such accounts blocked by reason of the residence of one spouse in Cuba in favor of the non-blocked spouse under the policy stated in paragraph (a)(2) of this section. However, if 50 percent of the account has been unblocked under that policy, and the spouse who is the blocked Cuban national subsequently dies, the surviving spouse may be entitled to a license unblocking the remainder of the assets under §515.522.

(b) [Reserved]


§ 515.552 Proceeds of insurance policies.

(a) Specific licenses are issued authorizing payment of the proceeds of blocked life insurance policies issued on the life of a Cuban national who died in Cuba after July 8, 1963, to certain beneficiaries licensed as unblocked nationals pursuant to §515.505, as follows: