

# Southern Currents



## Notice to the Area Port of New Orleans Trade Community

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Date December 31, 2018

No.: 19-008

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**SUBJECT: Blanket Delay in Departure Due to LMR Closure – Fog**

**Blanket Delay in Departure:**

The CBP Area Port Director has approved a blanket **Delay in Departure** for those vessels unable to depart the lower Mississippi River due to daily river closures as a result of fog.

The blanket Delay in Departure grants an additional 24 hours for vessels to depart port after clearance has been granted, i.e. allows a vessel up to 72 hours to sail after clearance.

*Example: The delay in departure for a vessel's clearance granted on Friday December 28, 2018 allows until Thursday January 3, 2019 for the vessel to depart.*

There is no requirement to have a Vessel Entrance and Clearance Specialist (VECS) stamp/annotate a vessel's clearance "Delay in Departure" when a blanket Delay in Departure is authorized.

If a vessel cannot depart within 72 hours the original clearance should be surrendered to the Marine Desk which granted the clearance, and cancelled. A fax copy of the clearance will not be accepted.

*A delay in departure does not provide additional time for filing complete outbound manifests and export declarations.*

Questions in the Port of New Orleans should be directed to Assistant Port Director Mark Choina at (504) 670-2287 or via e-mail at [mark.s.choina@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:mark.s.choina@cbp.dhs.gov).

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