

§ 27.204

§ 27.204 Distinctive liquor bottles.

(a) *Application.* Liquor bottles of distinctive shape or design, including bottles of less than 200 ml. capacity, may be imported by an importer (filled bottles) or a bottler (empty bottles). For filled bottles, the importer shall submit TTB Form 5100.31 for approval prior to importation of such bottles into the United States. For empty bottles, the bottler shall obtain approval from the appropriate TTB officer on TTB Form 5100.31 prior to using the bottles. The importer or bottler, as applicable, shall certify as to the total capacity of a representative sample bottle before closure (expressed in milliliters) on each copy of the form. In addition, the applicant shall affix a readily legible photograph (both front and back of the bottle to the front of each copy of TTB Form 5100.31, along with the label(s) to be used on the bottle. The applicant shall not submit an actual bottle or an authentic model unless specifically requested to do so.

(b) *Approval.* Properly submitted TTB Forms 5100.31 to import distinctive liquor bottles (filled), or, properly submitted TTB Forms 5100.31 to use distinctive liquor bottles (empty) which have been imported, shall be approved provided such bottles are found by the appropriate TTB officer to—

- (1) Meet the requirements of 27 CFR part 5;
- (2) Be distinctive;
- (3) Be suitable for their intended purpose;
- (4) Not jeopardize the revenue; and
- (5) Not be deceptive to the consumer.

The applicant shall keep a copy of the approved TTB Form 5100.31, including an approved photograph (both front and back) of the distinctive liquor bottle, on file at his premises. If TTB Form 5100.31 is disapproved, the applicant shall be notified of the appropriate TTB officer decision and the reasons therefor. The applicant importer is responsible for furnishing a copy of the approved TTB Form 5100.31, including a photograph of the distinctive liquor bottle, to Customs officials at each

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affected port of entry where the merchandise is examined.

(Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1374, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5301))

[T.D. ATF-114, 47 FR 43951, Oct. 5, 1982, as amended by T.D. ATF-242, 51 FR 39526, Oct. 29, 1986; T.D. ATF-474, 67 FR 11232, Mar. 13, 2002]

§ 27.205 [Reserved]

§ 27.206 Bottles not constituting approved containers.

The appropriate TTB officer is authorized to disapprove any bottle, including a bottle of less than 200 ml. capacity, for use as a liquor bottle which he determines to be deceptive. The Customs officer at the port of entry shall deny entry of any such bottle containing distilled spirits upon advice from the appropriate TTB officer that such bottle is not an approved container for distilled spirits for consumption in the United States.

(Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1374, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5301))

[T.D. ATF-114, 47 FR 43951, Oct. 5, 1982]

§ 27.207 Bottles to be used for display purposes.

Empty liquor bottles may be imported and furnished to liquor dealers for display purposes, provided each bottle is marked to show that it is to be used for such purpose. The importer shall keep records of the receipt and disposition of such bottles, showing the names and addresses of consignees, dates of shipment, and size, quantity, and description of bottles.

[T.D. ATF-206, 50 FR 23956, June 7, 1985]

§ 27.208 Liquor bottles denied entry.

Filled liquor bottles, not conforming to the provisions of this subpart, shall be denied entry into the United States: *Provided*, That, upon letterhead application, in triplicate, the appropriate TTB officer may, in nonrecurring cases, authorize the release from customs custody of distilled spirits in bottles, except those coming under the provisions of § 27.206, which, through unintentional error, do not conform to the provisions of this subpart, if he