

FLAG DAY GREETINGS

June 14, 2025 By William M. Borchard

In our <u>Flag Day Greetings for 2023</u>, we reported about an association that certifies flags made in the United States, and about a bill introduced in both houses of Congress to require Government agencies to buy only U.S-made American Flags.

This year we report about flag developments since then.



All-American Flag Act

On July 30, 2024, President Biden signed into law the <u>All-American Flag Act</u>, with bipartisan support, which generally prohibits Executive agencies from using funds to procure a U.S. flag unless that flag has been 100 percent manufactured in the United States from articles, materials, or supplies that have been grown or 100 percent produced or manufactured in the United States.

Make American Flags in America Act of 2025

On February 18, 2025 a bill named the Make American Flags in America Act of 2025 was introduced in the House, and on March 6, 2025 a corresponding bill was introduced in the Senate. This bill would remove exceptions contained in the 2024 flag law in order to correct perceived loopholes that allowed Chinese companies to continue to sell American flags to Government agencies. This bill also would extend its requirements to all Federal agencies. In addition, it would require the Federal Trade Commission to produce a report within one year of enactment assessing the enforcement experience and recommending any improvements to that enforcement.

VA Flag Display Policy

On February 12, 2025, the Department of Veterans Affairs announced a "new" policy, which it said was intended to establish more consistent and clear guidance following a longstanding Department of Defense policy introduced during the first Trump Administration and retained during the Biden Administration. It specifies various flags, in addition to the American flag, that may be publicly displayed or depicted on VA premises. However, it does not prohibit, among other things, the display or depiction of unauthorized flags in specified ways where the nature of the display or depiction cannot reasonably be viewed as an endorsement of the flag by the Department.

We wish you, and our country, well on this Flag Day 2025.

For further information, contact William M. Borchard or your CLL attorney.

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Bill has handled domestic and international trademark and copyright matters at the highest level for over 60 years. He has counseled and represented clients on domestic and international trademark matters concerning clearance, registration, proper use, licensing, contested administrative proceedings and infringement claims. He became Senior Counsel in January 2024 and is now focusing on providing guidance and advice to other lawyers within our firm and writing informative and engaging articles on intellectual property law developments.