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U.S. Department of Justice
Immigration and Naturalization Service

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OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS
425 Eye Street N.W.
ULLB, 3rd Floor
Washington, D.C. 20536



FILE: [Redacted]

Office: Miami

Date:

JAN 20 2003

IN RE: Applicant: [Redacted]

APPLICATION: Application for Permanent Residence Pursuant to Section 1 of the Cuban Adjustment Act of November 2, 1966 (P.L. 89-732)

IN BEHALF OF APPLICANT: Self-represented

PUBLIC COPY

INSTRUCTIONS:

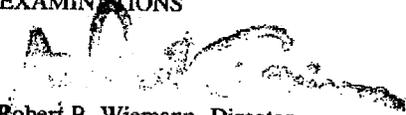
This is the decision in your case. All documents have been returned to the office that originally decided your case. Any further inquiry must be made to that office.

If you believe the law was inappropriately applied or the analysis used in reaching the decision was inconsistent with the information provided or with precedent decisions, you may file a motion to reconsider. Such a motion must state the reasons for reconsideration and be supported by any pertinent precedent decisions. Any motion to reconsider must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reconsider, as required under 8 C.F.R. 103.5(a)(1)(i).

If you have new or additional information that you wish to have considered, you may file a motion to reopen. Such a motion must state the new facts to be proved at the reopened proceeding and be supported by affidavits or other documentary evidence. Any motion to reopen must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reopen, except that failure to file before this period expires may be excused in the discretion of the Service where it is demonstrated that the delay was reasonable and beyond the control of the applicant or petitioner. Id.

Any motion must be filed with the office that originally decided your case along with a fee of \$110 as required under 8 C.F.R. 103.7.

FOR THE ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER,
EXAMINATIONS


Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The application was denied by the Acting District Director, Miami, Florida, who certified his decision to the Associate Commissioner, Examinations, for review. The acting district director's decision will be affirmed.

The applicant is a native and citizen of Cuba who filed this application for adjustment of status to that of a lawful permanent resident under section 1 of the Cuban Adjustment Act of November 2, 1966. This Act provides for the adjustment of status of any alien who is a native or citizen of Cuba and who has been inspected and admitted or paroled into the United States subsequent to January 1, 1959, and has been physically present in the United States for at least one year, to that of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence if the alien is eligible to receive an immigrant visa and is admissible to the United States for permanent residence.

The acting district director found the applicant inadmissible to the United States pursuant to section 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(II) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(2)(A)(i)(II), based on her conviction of possession of cocaine. The district director, therefore, concluded that the applicant was ineligible for adjustment of status and denied the application.

In response to the notice of certification, the applicant requests that the Service decrease her offense to 30 grams or less of marijuana so that she may qualify for permanent residence.

Section 212(a)(2) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(2), provides that aliens inadmissible and ineligible to receive visas and ineligible to be admitted to the United States include:

(A)(i) Any alien convicted of, or who admits having committed, or who admits committing acts which constitute the essential elements of --

* * *

(II) a violation of (or a conspiracy or attempt to violate) any law or regulation of a State, the United States, or a foreign country relating to a controlled substance (as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. 802).

The record reflects that on November 10, 1986, in the Circuit Court of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit, Dade County, Florida, the applicant was indicted for Count 1, possession of a controlled substance (cocaine), and Count 2, resisting an officer without violence to his person. On January 12, 1987, the applicant was convicted of Count 1, adjudication of guilt was withheld, and she was placed on probation for a period of one year, with special

conditions that she continue with "Chic Program" and complete five hours of community service. The final disposition as to Count 2 is not reflected in the record.

The applicant is inadmissible to the United States pursuant to section 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(II) of the Act based on her conviction of possession of a controlled substance (cocaine). There is no waiver available to an alien found inadmissible under this section except for a single offense of simple possession of thirty grams or less of marijuana. The applicant does not qualify under this exception. While the applicant requests that her offense be decreased to 30 grams or less of marijuana, the court record clearly shows the applicant was convicted of possession of cocaine. The Service is required to rely on the court record as it stands, and must make determinations of guilt or innocence based on that record.

Accordingly, the applicant is ineligible for adjustment of status to permanent residence pursuant to section 1 of the Act of November 2, 1966. The decision of the acting district director to deny the application will be affirmed.

ORDER: The acting district director's decision is affirmed.