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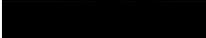
U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

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FILE:  Office: MIAMI, FLORIDA Date:

IN RE: Applicant: 

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

ON BEHALF OF PETITIONER:



INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office 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.

Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The application was denied by the District Director, Miami, Florida, who certified his decision to the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) for review. The 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 (CAA) of November 2, 1966. The CAA provides, in part:

[T]he 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, may be adjusted by the Attorney General, (now the Secretary of Homeland Security, (Secretary)), in his discretion and under such regulations as he may prescribe, to that of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence if the alien makes an application for such adjustment, and the alien is eligible to receive an immigrant visa and is admissible to the United States for permanent residence.

The District Director found the applicant inadmissible to the United States because he falls within the purview of section 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(I) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(2)(A)(i)(I), for having been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude. See *District Director's Decision* dated June 10, 2004.

Section 212(a)(2) of the Act states in pertinent part, that:

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

- (I) a crime involving moral turpitude (other than a purely political offense) or an attempt or conspiracy to commit such a crime . . . is inadmissible.

. . . .

Section 212(h) of the Act provides, in pertinent part, that:

(h) The Attorney General [now the Secretary of Homeland Security, "Secretary"] may, in his discretion, waive the application of subparagraphs (A)(i)(I) . . . of subsection (a)(2) . . . if -

. . . .

- (1) (B) in the case of an immigrant who is the spouse, parent, son, or daughter of a citizen of the United States or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence if it is established to the satisfaction of the Attorney General [Secretary] that the alien's denial of admission would result in extreme hardship to the United States citizen or lawfully resident spouse, parent, son, or daughter of such alien

The record reflects that the applicant has the following convictions:

December 2, 1982: Circuit Court in and for Dade County, Florida, convicted for the offense of burglary of an Unoccupied Dwelling and Grand Theft 2nd Degree.

September 7, 1990: Circuit Court in and for Monroe, County, Florida for the offense of Grand Theft.

June 16, 1993: Circuit Court in and for Dade County, Florida, for the offense of resisting Officer with Violence.

The applicant is, therefore, inadmissible to the United States pursuant to section 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(I) of the Act due to his convictions of crimes involving moral turpitude (grand theft).

As stated above section 212(h) of the Act provides that a waiver of the bar to admission resulting from section 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(I) of the Act is dependent first upon a showing that the bar imposes an extreme hardship on a qualifying family member, United States citizen or lawfully resident spouse, parent, son, or daughter.

On June 22, 2001, the applicant submitted a Form I-601, Application for Waiver of Grounds of Excludability, along with the appropriate fee in an attempt to explain how his deportation may result in extreme hardship to his qualifying relatives. The Acting District Director concluded that the applicant had failed to establish that extreme hardship would be imposed on a qualifying relative. The application was denied accordingly. *See Acting District Director's Decision* dated July 30, 2003. An appeal filed with the AAO was dismissed on May 17, 2004.

On notice of certification, the applicant was offered an opportunity to submit evidence in opposition to the District Director's findings. No additional evidence has been entered into the record.

A final decision regarding the applicant's Form I-601 was issued on May 17, 2004. The applicant is inadmissible under section 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(I) of the Act and therefore he does not qualify for adjustment of status under section 1 of the CAA of November 2, 1956.

Pursuant to section 291 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1361, the burden of proof is upon the applicant to establish that he is eligible for adjustment of status. He has failed to meet that burden. The decision of the District Director to deny the application for adjustment of status will be affirmed.

ORDER: The District Director's decision is affirmed.