



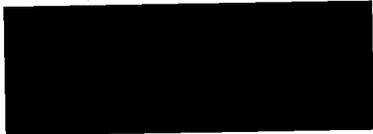
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U.S. Department of Justice

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] (WAC-01-007-50007) Office: California Service Center

Date: OCT 07 2002

IN RE: Petitioner: [REDACTED]
Beneficiary: [REDACTED]

Petition: Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker as Outstanding Professor or Researcher Pursuant to § 203(b)(1)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. 1153(b)(1)(B)

IN BEHALF OF PETITIONER:



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 employment-based immigrant visa petition was initially approved by the Director, California Service Center. On the basis of new information received and on further review of the record, the director determined that the petitioner was not eligible for the benefit sought. Accordingly, the director properly served the petitioner with notice of intent to revoke the approval of the visa petition, and her reasons therefore, and ultimately revoked the approval of the petition on April 8, 2002. The matter is now before the Associate Commissioner for Examinations on appeal. The case will be remanded for further consideration.

The petitioner is an e-business software solutions company. It seeks to classify the beneficiary as an outstanding researcher pursuant to section 203(b)(1)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. 1153(b)(1)(B). The petitioner seeks to employ the beneficiary permanently in the United States as an R&D software developer.¹ The director determined that the petitioner had not established the significance of the beneficiary's research, or that the beneficiary is recognized internationally as outstanding in his academic field, as required for classification as an outstanding researcher.

On appeal, counsel stated that he would submit a brief and/or evidence to the Administrative Appeals Office ("AAO") within 30 days.

Counsel dated the appeal May 2, 2002. As of this date, more than three months later, the AAO has received nothing further.

The appeal was filed on May 3, 2002, 25 days after the decision was rendered. According to the pertinent regulations, the appeal was not timely filed. 8 C.F.R. 205.2(d) states that revocations of approvals must be appealed within 15 days after the service of the notice of revocation. The notice of revocation advised the petitioner of the 15-day deadline. The notice of revocation erroneously stated that the petitioner could file an appeal within 33 days. Nevertheless, the director's error does not supersede the pertinent regulations.

8 C.F.R. 103.3(a)(2)(v)(B)(2) states that, if an untimely appeal meets the requirements of a motion to reopen as described in 8 C.F.R. 103.5(a)(2), or the requirements of a motion to reconsider as described in 8 C.F.R. 103.5(a)(3), the appeal must be treated as a motion, and a decision must be made on the merits of the case.

8 C.F.R. 103.5(a)(2) requires that a motion to reopen state the new facts to be proved at the reopened proceeding, and be supported by affidavits or other documentary evidence. 8 C.F.R. 103.5(a)(3) requires that a motion to reconsider must state the reasons for reconsideration and be supported by any pertinent precedent decisions to establish that the decision was based on an incorrect application of law or service policy. Such a motion must also establish that the decision was incorrect based on the evidence of record at the time of the initial decision. A motion must meet the requirements of a motion at the time it is filed.

¹ The director did not address the issue of whether a software developer is a "researcher."

According to 8 C.F.R. 103.5(a)(1)(ii), jurisdiction over a motion resides with the official who made the latest decision in the proceeding. Because, in this case, the disputed decision was rendered by the director, the AAO has no jurisdiction over this motion and the case must be remanded to the director for a decision pursuant to the regulations governing motions to reopen.

ORDER: The petition is remanded to the director for further action in accordance with the foregoing. In the event that a new decision is rendered which is adverse to the petitioner, the decision is to be certified to the Associate Commissioner for Examinations for review.