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U.S. Department of Justice

Immigration and Naturalization Service

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

Public Copy

File: WAC-99-245-50025 Office: California Service Center

Date: APR 13 2001

IN RE: Petitioner: [REDACTED]

Petition: Immigrant Petition by Alien Entrepreneur Pursuant to § 203(b)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. 1153(b)(5)

IN BEHALF OF PETITIONER:

[REDACTED]

Identification data deleted to
prevent clearly unwarranted
invasion of personal privacy.

INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision in your case. All documents have been returned to the office which 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 which 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 which 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
Robert P. Wiemann, Acting Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The preference visa petition was denied by the Director, California Service Center, and is now before the Associate Commissioner for Examinations on appeal. The appeal will be rejected.

According to 8 C.F.R. 103.3(a)(2)(i), an appeal must be filed with the office where the unfavorable decision was made within 30 days after service of the decision. 8 C.F.R. 103.5a(b) states that whenever a person is required to act within a prescribed period after the service of a notice upon him and the notice is served by mail, three days shall be added to the prescribed period.

The director issued his decision on November 19, 1999. The appeal was received on December 21, 1999, but the director returned the appeal for counsel's signature. An unsigned appeal is not properly filed. 8 C.F.R. 103.2(a)(7). The signed appeal was received by the Service Center on January 5, 2000. The appeal was therefore filed untimely.

8 C.F.R. 103.3(a)(2)(v)(B) states that an appeal that is not filed within the time allowed must be rejected as improperly filed; however, if an untimely appeal meets the requirements of a motion to reopen as described in 8 C.F.R. 103.5(a)(2) or a motion to reconsider as described in 8 C.F.R. 103.5(a)(3), the appeal must be treated as a motion.

According to 8 C.F.R. 103.5(a)(2), a motion to reopen must state the new facts to be provided and be supported by affidavits or other documentary evidence. According to 8 C.F.R. 103.5(a)(3), 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.

According to 8 C.F.R. 103.5(a)(1)(ii), jurisdiction over a motion resides in the official who made the latest decision in the proceeding. In this case, the disputed decision was rendered by the director; the AAU has no jurisdiction over this motion. The director must issue a decision on this motion pursuant to the regulations governing motions to reopen and/or reconsider.

ORDER: The appeal is rejected.