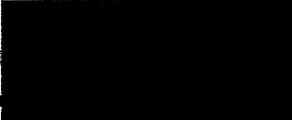


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prevent clearly unwarranted
invasion of personal privacy**



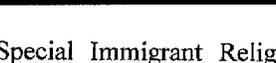
**U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services**

PUBLIC COPY



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FILE:  Office: TEXAS SERVICE CENTER Date: DEC 16 2005
SRC 04 230 32397

IN RE: Petitioner: 
Beneficiary: 

PETITION: Petition for Special Immigrant Religious Worker Pursuant to Section 203(b)(4) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1153(b)(4), as described at Section 101(a)(27)(C) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(27)(C)

ON BEHALF OF PETITIONER:

SELF-REPRESENTED

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.

Mari Johnson

3 Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The employment-based immigrant visa petition was denied by the Acting Director, Texas Service Center, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be rejected.

The Form I-360, Petition for Amerasian, Widow or Special Immigrant, filed with Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS), indicates that the First Baptist Church in Martin, Tennessee is the petitioner. The petition, however, is signed by [REDACTED]. Therefore, the First Baptist Church cannot be considered as having filed the petition on behalf of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] shall be considered as the self-petitioner.

The regulation at 8 C.F. R. § 103.3(a)(1)(iii) states, in pertinent part:

(B) Meaning of affected party. For purposes of this section and §§ 103.4 and 103.5 of this part, *affected party* (in addition to the Service) means the person or entity with legal standing in a proceeding. It does not include the beneficiary of a visa petition.

The regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v) states:

Improperly filed appeal – (A) Appeal filed by person or entity not entitled to file it – (1) Rejection without refund of filing fee. An appeal filed by a person or entity not entitled to file it must be rejected as improperly filed. In such a case, any filing fee the Service has accepted will not be refunded.

Only an affected party, a person or entity with legal standing, may file an appeal of an unfavorable decision. The Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal to the Administrative Appeals Unit, is signed by Reverend [REDACTED]. The record does not contain a Form G-28, Notice of Entry of Appearance as Attorney or Representative authorizing [REDACTED] to act on behalf of the petitioner, and [REDACTED] is not recognized as an authorized or accredited representative pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 292.1(a). The appeal has not been filed by the petitioner, or by any entity with legal standing in the proceeding. Therefore, the appeal has not been properly filed and must be rejected.

ORDER: The appeal is rejected.