

identifying data deleted to  
prevent clearly unwarranted  
invasion of personal privacy

PUBLIC COPY

U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
20 Mass. Ave., N.W., Rm. 3000  
Washington, DC 20529



U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

C1



FILE: [REDACTED] Office: VERMONT SERVICE CENTER Date: AUG 02 2006  
EAC 04 027 52342

IN RE:



PETITION: Immigrant 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.

Σ Robert P. Wiemann, Chief  
Administrative Appeals Office

**DISCUSSION:** The Director, Vermont Service Center, denied the employment-based immigrant visa petition. The matter is now before the Administrative Appeals Office on appeal. The appeal will be rejected.

The petitioner is identified as a Greek Orthodox Archdiocese. It seeks to classify the beneficiary as a 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), to perform services as a parish priest. The director determined that the petitioner had not established that it qualifies as a tax-exempt religious organization, or that it is able to pay the beneficiary's proffered compensation.

The Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal, was signed not by any official of the petitioning entity, but by [REDACTED] of ALTRA Consulting Services. The petitioner has submitted Form G-28, Entry of Appearance as Attorney or Representative, designating [REDACTED] as the petitioner's representative.

The Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 103.2(a)(3) specifies that a petitioner may be represented "by an attorney in the United States, as defined in § 1.1(f) of this chapter, by an attorney outside the United States as defined in § 292.1(a)(6) of this chapter, or by an accredited representative as defined in § 292.1(a)(4) of this chapter." Pursuant to 8 C.F.R. §§ 292.1(a)(4) and 292.2(a), an accredited representative is a person that the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) has accredited to represent a particular "non-profit religious, charitable, social service, or similar organization established in the United States" that the BIA has recognized as an organization which may provide accredited representatives.

[REDACTED] does not claim to be an attorney or an accredited representative of any BIA-recognized organization. [REDACTED] is not listed on the official roster of accredited representatives, and ALTRA Consulting Services does not appear on the roster of organizations recognized by the BIA as non-profit religious, charitable, social service, or similar organizations qualified to provide accredited representatives.<sup>1</sup>

CIS regulations specifically state that an appeal filed by a person or entity not entitled to file it must be rejected as improperly filed. 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(A)(1). Here, the person who filed the appeal was not entitled to do so under 8 C.F.R. § 103.2(a)(3). Accordingly, the AAO must reject the appeal.

**ORDER:** The appeal is rejected.

---

<sup>1</sup> The web page at <http://www.usdoj.gov/eoir/statspub/recognitionaccreditationroster.pdf> features a list, updated quarterly, of BIA-recognized organizations. A list of accredited representatives, also updated quarterly, can be found at <http://www.usdoj.gov/eoir/statspub/accreditedreproster.pdf>.