

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Citizenship and Immigration Services

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ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS OFFICE
CIS, AAO, 20 Mass, 3/F
425 Eye Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20536



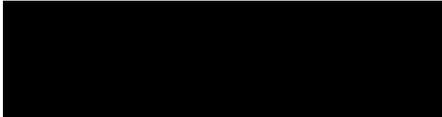
File: SRC 02 070 50930

Office: TEXAS SERVICE CENTER

Date:

NOV 14 2003

IN RE: Petitioner:
Beneficiary:



PETITION: Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker Pursuant to Section 101(a)(15)(H)(1)(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(H)(1)(b)

ON BEHALF OF PETITIONER: SELF-REPRESENTED

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 Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) 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.

Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The Acting Director of the Texas Service Center denied the nonimmigrant visa petition and the matter is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be rejected pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(B)(1) as untimely filed.

The petitioner is a tax and translation office that employs four persons and has a gross annual income of \$78,000. It seeks to employ the beneficiary as a Spanish office clerk and bookkeeper. The director denied the petition on the basis that the record contained insufficient information upon which to base an approval.

Pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(i), an affected party has 30 days after service of a decision to file an appeal with the office that made the unfavorable decision. The record reflects that the acting director sent her decision of January 16, 2002 to the petitioner and to counsel at their addresses of record; the Immigration and Naturalization Service, now Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS), received the appeal 64 days later on March 21, 2002. Therefore, the appeal was untimely filed.

The regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(B)(1) states that an appeal which is not filed within the time allowed must be rejected as improperly filed. However, 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 § 103.5(a)(2) or a motion to reconsider as described in § 103.5(a)(3), the appeal must be treated as a motion, and a decision must be made on the merits of the case.

Pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(2), a motion to reopen must state the new facts to be proved in the reopened proceeding and be supported by affidavits or other documentary evidence. Pursuant 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 CIS policy. A motion to reconsider a decision on an application or petition must, when filed, also establish that the decision was incorrect based on the evidence of record at the time of the initial decision.

The petitioner indicated on Form I-290B that a brief and/or additional evidence would be submitted to the AAO within 90 days. As of this date, however, the AAO has not received any

additional evidence into the record. Therefore, the record is complete.

As neither counsel nor the petitioner presents new facts to be considered, or provides any precedent decisions to establish that the director's denial was based on an incorrect application of law or CIS policy, the appeal will not be treated as a motion to reopen or reconsider and will, therefore, be rejected.

As always, the burden of proving eligibility for the benefit sought remains entirely with the petitioner. Section 291 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1361. The petitioner has not sustained that burden.

ORDER: The appeal is rejected as untimely filed.