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U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Citizenship and Immigration Services

ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS OFFICE
CIS, AAO, 20 Mass, 3/F
425 I Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20536

File: [redacted] Office: Vermont Service Center Date: OCT 2 8 2003

IN RE: Petitioner: [redacted]
Beneficiary:

Petition: Petition for Alien Fiancé(e) Pursuant to Section 101(a)(15)(K) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(K)

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 nonimmigrant visa petition was denied by the Director, Vermont Service Center, and is now on appeal before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO). The appeal will be dismissed.

The petitioner is a citizen of the United States who seeks to classify the beneficiary, a native and citizen of Canada, as the fiancée of a United States citizen pursuant to section 101(a)(15)(K) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(K).

Section 101(a)(15)(K) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(K), defines a "fiancé(e)" as:

> An alien who is the fiancée or fiancé of a citizen of the United States and who seeks to enter the United States solely to conclude a valid marriage with the petitioner within ninety days after entry.

Section 214(d) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1184(d), states, in pertinent part, that a fiancé(e) petition:

> . . . shall be approved only after satisfactory evidence is submitted by the petitioner to establish that the parties have previously met in person within two years before the date of filing the petition, have a bona fide intention to marry, and are legally able and actually willing to conclude a valid marriage in the United States within a period of ninety days after the alien's arrival. . . .

It was held in *Matter of Souza*, 14 I&N Dec. 1 (Reg. Comm. 1972) that both the petitioner and beneficiary must be unmarried and free to conclude a valid marriage at the time the petition is filed. The record indicates that the petition was filed on November 1, 2002.

The director denied the petition after determining that the petitioner was not free to marry the beneficiary at the time the petition was filed. Specifically, the evidence submitted indicated that the petitioner's divorce from Anita Thibault did not become final until January 8, 2003.

On the Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal, the petitioner states that he had not realized that his divorce from his first spouse needed to be finalized prior to filing the petition on behalf of the beneficiary. He indicates that he would like to resubmit a petition on the beneficiary's behalf now that he is free to marry her.

The regulations at 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(a)(v) state, in pertinent part, that:

> An officer to whom an appeal is taken shall summarily dismiss any appeal when the party concerned fails to

identify specifically any erroneous conclusion of law of statement of fact for the appeal.

Inasmuch as the applicant has failed to identify specifically any erroneous conclusion or law or a statement of fact as the basis for the appeal, the regulation mandates its summary dismissal.

Pursuant to 8 C.F.R § 214.2(k)(2), the denial of the petition is without prejudice. The petitioner may now file a new petition on the beneficiary's behalf in accordance with the statutory requirements.

The burden of proof in these proceedings rests solely with the applicant. Section 291 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1361. The applicant has not met that burden.

ORDER: The appeal is dismissed.