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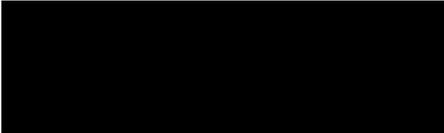
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U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services



FILE:



EAC 02 227 53121

Office: VERMONT SERVICE CENTER

Date SEP 17 2004

IN RE:

Petitioner:



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

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.

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 naturalized citizen of the United States who seeks to classify the beneficiary, a native and citizen of Laos, 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).

The director denied the petition after determining that the petitioner was not legally able and actually willing to conclude a valid marriage in the United States at the time of the filing of the petition, as required by section 214(d) of the Act. *Decision of the Director*, dated August 14, 2003.

Section 101(a)(15)(K) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(K), provides nonimmigrant classification to an alien who:

- (i) is the fiancé(e) of a U.S. citizen and who seeks to enter the United States solely to conclude a valid marriage with that citizen within 90 days after admission;
- (ii) has concluded a valid marriage with a citizen of the United States who is the petitioner, is the beneficiary of a petition to accord a status under section 201(b)(2)(A)(i) that was filed under section 204 by the petitioner, and seeks to enter the United States to await the approval of such petition and the availability to the alien of an immigrant visa; or
- (iii) is the minor child of an alien described in clause (i) or (ii) and is accompanying, or following to join, the alien.

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. . . .

In response to the director's request for evidence and additional information concerning the termination of the petitioner's previous marriage, the petitioner failed to submit documentation evidencing a divorce from his former spouse.

On appeal, the petitioner submits a letter written by an attorney representing the petitioner in a complaint in the Plymouth County Probate and Family Court. The letter indicates that the petitioner received a divorce on May 26, 2004 and that the divorce will be final on September 27, 2004. *Letter from Robert J. Berks, Esq.*, dated May 26, 2004.

The record reflects that the petitioner is not legally able and actually willing to conclude a valid marriage in the United States until his divorce from his former spouse becomes final on September 27, 2004. Under section 214(d) of the Act, the petitioner is required to be legally able and actually willing to conclude a valid marriage in the United States at the time of the filing of the Form I-129F Petition for Alien Fiancé(e). Therefore, the appeal will be dismissed.

Pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 214.2(k)(2), the denial of the petition is without prejudice. The petitioner may file a new Form I-129F petition on the beneficiary's behalf when sufficient evidence is available.

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

**ORDER:** The appeal is dismissed.