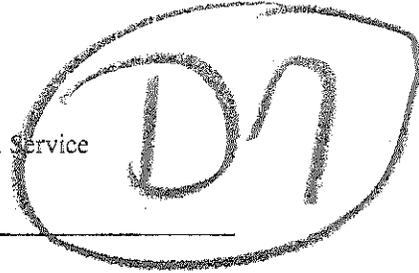




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U.S. Department of Justice
Immigration and Naturalization Service



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Immigration and Naturalization Service

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS
425 Eye Street N.W.
UILLB, 3rd Floor
Washington, D.C. 20536



File: LIN 00 238 50644 Office: NEBRASKA SERVICE CENTER Date: JAN 22 2013

IN RE: Petitioner: [Redacted]
Beneficiary: [Redacted]

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

IN BEHALF OF PETITIONER: [Redacted]

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 the Service 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.

FOR THE ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER,
EXAMINATIONS

Robert P. Wiemann
for Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The nonimmigrant visa petition was denied by the Director, Nebraska Service Center. The matter is now before the Associate Commissioner for Examinations on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The petitioner operates a gas station and convenience store. It seeks to continue the employment of the beneficiary in the United States as its president. The director determined that the petitioner had not established that the beneficiary would be employed in the United States in a managerial capacity. The director also determined that the petitioner had not established that the beneficiary had been employed abroad in a primarily managerial or executive capacity. However, this is not an issue for an extension and should have been addressed in the original petition. This issue will not be discussed in this proceeding.

On appeal, counsel states that the decision of the director is arbitrary and capricious in that the applicant is clearly eligible for the classification sought. Counsel further states that the director's conclusion that the duties of the position do not meet the definition of a managerial or executive position is erroneous and without any foundation. Counsel argues that the director's conclusion that the application fails to establish that the United States operation is able to support a managerial or executive position is likewise without foundation. Counsel indicates the petitioner's corporate tax returns for 1999 clearly indicate income sufficient to support a managerial or executive position with a gross income in excess of \$372,000. Counsel submits the petitioner's corporate income tax return for 2000 to show that the corporation's gross receipts have risen to in excess of \$465,000.

To establish L-1 eligibility under section 101(a)(15)(L) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(L), the petitioner must demonstrate that the beneficiary, within three years preceding the beneficiary's application for admission into the United States, has been employed abroad in a qualifying managerial or executive capacity, or in a capacity involving specialized knowledge, for one continuous year by a qualifying organization and seeks to enter the United States temporarily in order to continue to render his or her services to the same employer or a subsidiary or affiliate thereof in a capacity that is managerial, executive, or involves specialized knowledge.

8 C.F.R. 214.2(1)(3) states that an individual petition filed on Form I-129 shall be accompanied by:

(i) Evidence that the petitioner and the organization which employed or will employ the alien are qualifying organizations as defined in paragraph (1)(1)(ii)(G) of this section.

(ii) Evidence that the alien will be employed in an executive, managerial, or specialized knowledge

capacity, including a detailed description of the services to be performed.

The issue in this proceeding is whether the petitioner has established that the beneficiary will be employed in a primarily managerial or executive capacity.

Section 101(a)(44)(A) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(44)(A), provides:

"Managerial capacity" means an assignment within an organization in which the employee primarily-

i. manages the organization, or a department, subdivision, function, or component of the organization;

ii. supervises and controls the work of other supervisory, professional, or managerial employees, or manages an essential function within the organization, or a department or subdivision of the organization;

iii. if another employee or other employees are directly supervised, has the authority to hire and fire or recommend those as well as other personnel actions (such as promotion and leave authorization), or if no other employee is directly supervised, functions at a senior level within the organizational hierarchy or with respect to the function managed; and

iv. exercises discretion over the day-to-day operations of the activity or function for which the employee has authority. A first-line supervisor is not considered to be acting in a managerial capacity merely by virtue of the supervisor's supervisory duties unless the employees supervised are professional.

Section 101(a)(44)(B) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(44)(B), provides:

"Executive capacity" means an assignment within an organization in which the employee primarily-

i. directs the management of the organization or a major component or function of the organization;

ii. establishes the goals and policies of the

organization, component, or function;

iii. exercises wide latitude in discretionary decision-making; and

iv. receives only general supervision or direction from higher level executives, the board of directors, or stockholders of the organization.

In the petition, the petitioner described the beneficiary's job duties as follows:

Supervising the day to day operations of the business, supervising employees and reviewing the financial status of the company.

The petitioner was incorporated in the State of Florida on December 4, 1998. The record shows that the petitioner paid salaries and wages of only \$2,967 in 1999 and \$1,590 in 2000. As of the filing date of August 11, 2000, four persons were employed by the firm including the president, a full-time sales person, a part-time sales person and a part-time cleaner.

The petitioner's description of the beneficiary's job duties is insufficient to warrant a finding that the beneficiary will be employed in a managerial capacity. The beneficiary's duties as outlined are vague and general and do not provide comprehensive data about the beneficiary's daily activities. It appears, at most, the beneficiary will be performing operational rather than managerial duties. The petitioner has provided insufficient evidence to establish that the beneficiary will be managing or directing the management of a function, department, subdivision or component of the company.

Based upon the record, the petitioner has not provided evidence that the beneficiary will be managing a subordinate staff of professional, managerial or supervisory personnel who relieve him from performing non-qualifying duties. Rather, the beneficiary is the individual performing the necessary tasks for the ongoing operation of the company, rather than primarily directing or managing those functions through the work of others.

Beyond the decision of the director, the record is not persuasive and does not contain sufficient documentation to establish that a qualifying relationship exists between the petitioner and a foreign firm, corporation or other legal entity. See 8 C.F.R. 214.2(l)(1)(ii)(G). As the appeal will be dismissed for the reasons stated above, this issue need not be examined further.

In visa petition proceedings, the burden of proving eligibility for the benefit sought remains entirely with the petitioner. Section 291 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. 1361. Here, that burden has not been met.

ORDER: The appeal is dismissed.