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Citizenship and Immigration Services

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



FILE: WAC 00 150 54864 Office: CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER Date: NOV 20 2003

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)

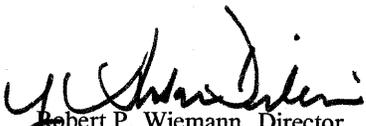
ON BEHALF OF PETITIONER:
[Redacted]

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 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 Director of the California Service Center denied the nonimmigrant visa petition and the matter is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The matter shall be remanded back to the director to treat the appeal as a motion.

The petitioner is described as a retailer and exporter of paper and paper products that employs ten employees. It seeks to extend its authorization to employ the beneficiary as its general manager. The director denied the petition because the petitioner had failed to establish through evidence that the beneficiary qualified as a manager or executive and that there was no evidence presented to establish a qualifying relationship between the U.S. and foreign entities.

An affected party has 30 days from the date of an adverse decision to file an appeal. 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(i). If the adverse decision was served by mail, an additional three days is added to the proscribed period. 8 C.F.R. 103.5a(b). The record reflects that the director sent her decision of August 25, 2000, to the petitioner and to counsel at their addresses of record. Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) received the appeal 74 days later on November 9, 2000. Therefore, the appeal was untimely filed.

An appeal that is not filed within the time allowed must be rejected as improperly filed. 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(B)(1). If, however, an untimely appeal meets the requirements of a motion to reopen or reconsider, the appeal must be treated as a motion, and a decision must be made on the merits of the case. 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(B)(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. 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(2). A motion to reconsider must: (1) 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 Bureau policy; and (2) establish that the decision was incorrect based on the evidence of record at the time of the initial decision. 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(3).

On appeal, counsel submits evidence that satisfies the requirements of a motion. Therefore, the matter will be remanded to the director to treat the appeal as a motion. The director may request any additional evidence deemed necessary

to assist him with the determination. As always in these proceedings, the burden of proof rests solely with the petitioner. Section 291 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1361.

ORDER: The petition is remanded to the director for entry of a new decision.