



U.S. Department of Justice
Immigration and Naturalization Service

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



FILE: [Redacted] Office: El Paso

Date:

DC 122000

IN RE: Obligor:

Bonded Alien:



IMMIGRATION BOND: Bond Conditioned for the Delivery of an Alien under § 103 of the Immigration and Nationality Act. 8 U.S.C. 1103

IN BEHALF OF OBLIGOR:



Public Copy

Identifying data deleted to prevent clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy

INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision in your case. All documents have been remmed to the office which 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 as inconsistent with the information provided or with precedent decisions, you may file a motion to reconsider. Such 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 which 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 which originally decided your case along with a fee of \$110 as required under 8 C.P.R. 103.7.

FOR THE ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER,
EXAMINATIONS

Terrence M. O'Reilly, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The delivery bond in this matter was declared breached by the District Director, El Paso, Texas, and is now before the Associate Commissioner for Examinations on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The record indicates that on January 21, 2000 the obligor posted a \$3,500 bond conditioned for the delivery of the above referenced alien. A Notice to Deliver Alien (Form I-340) dated April 5, 2000 was sent to the obligor via certified mail, return receipt requested. The notice demanded the bonded alien's surrender into the custody of an officer of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (the Service) for removal at 1:00 p.m. on May 2, 2000 at [redacted] and the alien failed to appear as required. On June 27, 2000, the district director informed the obligor that the delivery bond had been breached.

On appeal, the obligor asserts that the district director erred in breaching the bond because: (1) he did not send all notices in connection with the bond, (2) he did not comply with the terms and provisions of 8 C.F.R. 103.5a requiring personal service and (3) he did not notify the obligor of the alien's scheduled hearing.

In a supplementary brief, counsel for the obligor states that there are at least three reasons why the Administrative Appeals Office should sustain this appeal:

1. Form I-352 (Rev. 5/27/97) is unenforceable because the Service failed to obtain the required OMB approval prior to using this form.

The Immigration Bond (Form I-352) is a collection of information as defined by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) 5 C.F.R. 1320.3(3) (c). The Service is an agency for the purposes of the PRA and the Form I-352 falls under the PRA. In stating that the Form I-352 is unenforceable because the Service did not seek approval for the Form I-352 after its prior approval lapsed, counsel ignores the provision of the whole law and its plain meaning.

The PRA was intended to rein agency activity by not burdening the public, small businesses, corporations and other government agencies to submit information collection requests on forms that do not display control numbers approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The plain meaning of the PRA makes it clear that a person who fails to comply with a collection of information will not be subject to any penalty. See U.S. v. Burdett, 768 F. Supp. 409 (E.D.N.Y. 1991).

The PRA only protects the public from failing to provide information to a government agency. Here, the obligor did file the information requested on "Form I-352, therefore" the obligor cannot avail himself of the affirmative defense provision contained in 44 U.S.C. § 3512. Only those persons who refuse to comply with a collection of information can raise the public protection provision as in Saco River Cellular, Inc. v. FCC, 133 F.3d 25, 28 (D.C. Cir. 1998). See also U.S. v. Spitzauer, where the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit stated that the public protection provision

is limited in scope and only protects individuals information. (1999 US App Lexis 6535).

fail to file

2. The express language of the contract is so critically flawed that it fails to create an obligation binding on the obligor.

The bond contract clearly requires that the obligor deliver the alien into the custody of the Service upon demand. Delivery bonds are violated if the obligor fails to cause the bond alien, to be produced or to produce himself/herself to an immigration officer or immigration judge upon each and every written request until removal proceedings are finally terminated, or until the alien is actually accepted by the immigration officer for detention or removal. Matter of Smith, 16 I&N Dec. 146 (Reg. Comm. 1977)

3. The Form I-340 surrender notice is null and void because, contrary to the Amwest Settlement and nationwide Service directive, the Service did not attach a questionnaire to the surrender demand.

The present record contains evidence that a properly completed questionnaire with the alien's photograph attached was forwarded to the obligor with the notice to surrender.

The regulations provide that an obligor shall be released from liability where there has been "substantial performance" of all conditions imposed by the terms of the bond. 8 C.F.R. 103.6(6) (3). A bond is breached when there has been a substantial violation of the stipulated conditions of the bond. 8 C.F.R. 103. (e).

8 C.F.R. 103.5a(a) (2) provides that personal service may be effected by any of the following:

- (i) Delivery of a copy personally;
- (ii) Delivery of a copy at a person's dwelling house or usual place of abode by leaving it with some person of suitable age and discretion;
- (iii) Delivery of a copy at the office or other person including a corporation, by leaving it with a person in charge;
- (iv) Mailing a copy by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, addressed to a person at his last known address

The bond {Form 1-352} provides in pertinent part that the obligor "agrees that any notice to him/her in connection with his bond may be accomplished by mail directed to him/her at the above address. In this case, the Form 1-352 lists [redacted] as the obligor's address.

Contained in the record is a certified mail receipt which indicates that Alien was sent to the obligor at [redacted] 77002 on April 5, 2000. This notice



demand that the obligor produce the bonded alien for removal on May 3, 2000. The receipt also indicates the obligor received notice to produce the bonded alien on April 8, 2000. Consequently, the record clearly establishes that the district director properly served notice on the obligor in compliance with 8 C.F.R. 103.5a(a) (2) (iv).

Furthermore, it is clear from the language used in the bond agreement that the obligor shall cause the alien to be produced or the alien shall produce himself to a Service officer upon each and every request of such officer until removal proceedings are either finally terminated or the alien is accepted by the Service for detention or removal.

Counsel states that the obligor has been relieved from the bond because the Service sent the alien a notice of removal on Form 1-166. Counsel declares that this is contrary to current Service regulations.

Form 1-166 has not been required since July 25, 1986 which is the effective date of an amendment to former 8 C.F.R. 243.3. That amendment had no effect on the obligor's agreement to produce the alien upon request.

In the Amwest/Reno Settlement Agreement, entered into on June 22, 1995 by the Service and Far West Surety Insurance Company, the Service agreed that a Form 1-166 letter would not be mailed to the alien's last known address before, and not less than 30 days after, the demand to produce the alien is mailed to the obligor.

Contained in the record is a certified mail receipt which indicates that the Form 1-166 letter was sent to the alien's last known address on June 26, 2000. This notice stated that arrangements have been made for the alien's departure to Costa Rica on July 25, 2000. Consequently, the record clearly establishes that the Form 1-166 letter was mailed more than 3 days after the notice to surrender was mailed.

It must be noted that delivery bonds are exacted to insure that aliens will be produced when and where required by the Service for hearings or removal. Such bonds are necessary in order for the Service to function in an orderly manner. The courts have long considered the confusion which would result if aliens could be surrendered at any time or place it suited their or the surety's convenience. Matter of L-, 31&N Dec. 862 (C.O. 1950).

After a careful review of the record, it is concluded that the conditions of the bond have been substantially violated, and the collateral has been forfeited. The decision of the district director will not be disturbed.

ORDER: The appeal is dismissed;

n