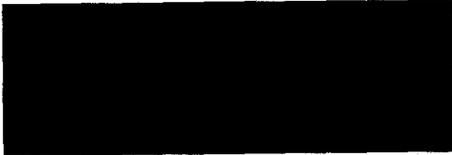




U.S. Department of Justice
Immigration and Naturalization Service

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



FILE: [Redacted] Office: Harlingen

Date:

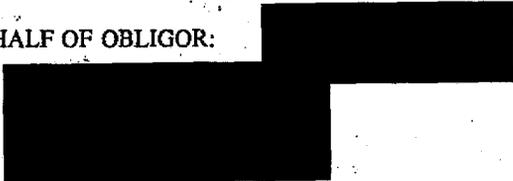
SEP '72000

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

INSTRUCTIONS!

This is the decision in your case. All documents have been returned 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 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).

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.F.R. 103.7.

Identifying data deleted to prevent clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy

FOR THE ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER
EXAMINATIONS

Anne M. O'Reilly, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

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

The record indicates that on June 28, [redacted] the obligor posted a \$5,000 bond conditioned for the delivery of the above referenced alien. A Notice to Deliver Alien (Form I-340) dated February 23, [redacted] 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 10' [redacted] arch 24, [redacted] at [redacted]. The obligor failed to appear as required. On April 4, [redacted] the district director informed the obligor that the delivery bond had been breached.

On appeal, counsel asserts that the district director erred in breaching the bond because: (1) he did not notify the obligor of all hearings in the alien's case, and (2) he sent the alien notice to appear for removal (Form I-166), contrary to Service regulations.

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 codified 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 Sao 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

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is limited in scope and only protects individuals who fail to file information. (1999 USApp Lexis 6535).

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 bonded 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.

Although the obligor failed to produce the alien as required by the surrender demand, counsel stated on appeal that all the conditions imposed by the terms of the bond were substantially performed by the obligor. 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. 28 C.F.R. 103.6(c) (3). A bond is breached when there has been a substantial violation of the stipulated conditions of the bond, 28 C.F.R. 103.6(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 of an attorney 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 I-352) provides in pertinent part that the obligor "agrees that any notice to him/her in connection with this bond may be accomplished by mail directed to: In this case, the Form I-352 listed the obligor's address."

Contained in the record is a certified mail receipt which indicates that the Notice to Deliver Alien was sent to the obligor at [REDACTED] on February 23, [REDACTED]. This notice demanded that the obligor produce the bonded alien for removal on March 24, [REDACTED]. The receipt also indicates the obligor received notice to produce the bonded alien on February 25, 19[REDACTED]. Consequently, the record clearly establishes that the notice was properly served on the obligor in compliance with 8 iC.F.R. 103.Sa(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.



ORDER: The appeal is dismissed.

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