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U.S. Department of Justice

Immigration and Naturalization Service

IDENTIFYING DATA DELETED TO
PREVENT CLEARLY UNWARRANTED
DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL DATA

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS

425 Eye Street N.W.

ULLB, 3rd Floor

Washington, D.C. 20536



FILE: [Redacted] Office: Los Angeles

Date: 25 FEB 2002

IN RE: Obligor:
Bonded Alien:



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

IN BEHALF OF OBLIGOR: Self-represented

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)(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.F.R. 103.7.

FOR THE ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER,
EXAMINATIONS


Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

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

The record indicates that on September 17, 1999, 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 August 23, 2001, was sent to the obligor via certified mail, return receipt requested. The notice demanded the bonded alien's surrender to the Immigration and Naturalization Service (the Service) for removal at 8:00 a.m. on September 24, 2001, at 300 North Los Angeles Street, Room 7621, Los Angeles, CA 90012. The obligor failed to present the alien, and the alien failed to appear as required. On November 2, 2001, the district director informed the obligor that the delivery bond had been breached.

On appeal, the obligor asserts that he went to Russia in September 2001 to help his wife travel to Moscow to register with the U.S. Embassy, but after September 11, 2001, the Embassy was constantly closed, and it was not possible to get an appointment. The applicant submitted evidence that he transferred some money to his wife in November 2001 as proof that she had returned to Russia.

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, as specified in the appearance notice, upon each and every written request until removal proceedings are finally terminated, or until the said alien is actually accepted by the Service for detention or removal. Matter of Smith, 16 I&N Dec. 146 (Reg. Comm. 1977).

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(c)(3). A bond is breached when there has been a substantial violation of the stipulated conditions of the bond. 8 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 him/her at the above address." In this case, the Form I-352 listed 6716 Hillpark Drive, #507, Los Angeles, CA 90068 as 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 August 23, 2001.

This notice demanded that the obligor produce the bonded alien for removal on September 24, 2001. While the recipient failed to indicate the date that the notice was received, the receipt was post marked by the postal service and it was subsequently received at the Service office. 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.

The Service has held that an alien who departs from the United States prior to the date demanded for surrender may be in substantial compliance with the terms of his delivery bond. Matter of Don Donaldson's Key Bail Service, 13 I&N Dec. 563 (Acting Reg. Comm. 1969). However, the burden is upon the alien or his surety to prove by probative evidence that the alien did leave the country prior to his surrender date. Matter of Peerless Insurance Company, 15 I&N Dec. 133 (Reg. Comm. 1974).

A physical verification of departure by an immigration officer at the port of departure, or a verification of the alien's presence in the foreign destination by a United States consular officer or immigration officer abroad, is required to verify departure. Whether together or separate, Forms I-94 and departure manifests submitted by a transportation line are insufficient verification of departure for bond cancellation purposes.

The Service will accept a document signed by an embassy official, consular officer, or Service officer abroad, and bearing an appropriate seal or other indicia of reliability as proof that a voluntary departure or self-removal has occurred. The district director retains the discretion to accept other documents of voluntary departure. The original of such document[s] may be delivered [either] *by the surety* or through diplomatic channels. Copies of such documents will be accepted only if received through diplomatic channels.

The obligor asserts that the bonded alien departed from the United States, and that he will submit proof that the alien has returned to Russia prior to the surrender date. However, the obligor's assertion is unsupported by any evidentiary documentation. Nor does the record contain a Notification of Departure-Bond Case (Form I-392) properly executed by a United States Embassy official, consular officer or immigration officer abroad and received through official channels indicating the bonded alien's departure from the United States prior to her surrender date.

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-, 3 I&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.