



G 1

U.S. Department of Justice

Immigration and Naturalization Service

RECEIVED JUN 12 2002
DOCUMENT CREDIT UNWARRANTED
RECEIVED BY PERSONAL DELIVERY

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



FILE: [Redacted] Office: Houston

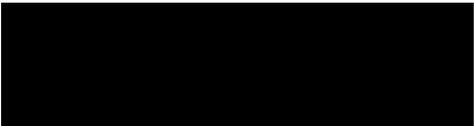
Date: JUN 10 2002

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:



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

Myra L. Rosevear
Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

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

The record indicates that on September 16, 1998, 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 September 29, 1999, 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 10:00 a.m. on November 15, 1999, at [REDACTED]. The obligor failed to present the alien, and the alien failed to appear as required. On May 18, 2000, 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.

On appeal, counsel puts forth a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request. Counsel requests an extension of 60 days in which to file a written brief after the receipt of the alien's file. Counsel claims that the facts of the case, and the law applicable thereto, are complicated.

It should be noted that the facts present in the case at hand are similar not only to numerous cases already presented to the Associate Commissioner by the obligor on previous appeals but to a myriad of similar cases adjudicated by the Associate Commissioner since the inception of the Office of Administrative Appeals in 1983. Therefore, the request is denied.

It is further noted that the present record contains evidence that a properly completed questionnaire was forwarded to the obligor with the notice to surrender pursuant to the Amwest/Reno Settlement Agreement, entered into on June 22, 1995, by the Service and [REDACTED].

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).

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. 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 [REDACTED] 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 [REDACTED] on September 29, 1999. This notice demanded that the obligor produce the bonded alien for removal on November 15, 1999. The receipt also indicates the obligor received notice to produce the bonded alien on October 8, 1999. Consequently, the record clearly establishes that the notice was properly served on the obligor in compliance with 8 C.F.R. 103.5a(a)(2)(iv).

Counsel states that the obligor has been relieved from liability on the bond because the Service sent the alien a notice to appear for removal on Form I-166. Counsel asserts that this is contrary to current Service regulations.

Form I-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.

Part 9 of the settlement agreement entered into on June 22, 1995 by the Immigration and Naturalization Service and Amwest Surety Insurance Company states:

INS agrees that no Form I-323, Notice - Immigration Bond Breached, shall be sent to the obligor more than 180 days following the date of the breach. If the I-323 is not sent to the obligor within 180 days following the date of the breach, then the declared breach shall be stale and unenforceable against the obligor.

As noted previously, the record indicates that the Form I-323, Notice - Immigration Bond Breached, was sent to the obligor on May 18, 2000. This notice was sent to the obligor based upon the obligor's failure to produce the bonded alien on November 15, 1999. As the district director's delayed notification of the bond breach violated the conditions of the aforementioned settlement agreement, the breach is not valid. The appeal is sustained and the bond will be continued in full force and effect.

ORDER: The appeal is sustained. The bond is continued in full force and effect.