

**PUBLIC COPY**

U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
20 Mass, Rm. A3042, 425 I Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20536



U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

identifying data deleted to  
prevent clearly unwarranted  
invasion of personal privacy



GI

FILE:



Office: HARLINGEN

Date: APR 15 2004

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

ON BEHALF OF OBLIGOR:



INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office 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.

Robert P. Wiemann, Director  
Administrative Appeals Office

**DISCUSSION:** The delivery bond in this matter was declared breached by the Field Office Director, Detention and Removal, Harlingen, Texas, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The record indicates that on March 23, 2001, the obligor posted a \$3,000 bond conditioned for the delivery of the above referenced alien. A Notice to Deliver Alien (Form I-340) dated December 2, 2003, 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 Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) at 10:00 a.m. on January 2, 2004, at 1717 Zoy Street, Harlingen, TX 78552. The obligor failed to present the alien, and the alien failed to appear as required. On January 12, 2004, the field office director informed the obligor that the delivery bond had been breached.

On appeal, counsel asserts that the alien was granted voluntary departure in removal proceedings on July 12, 2002, without the requirement of a voluntary departure bond. Counsel asserts that the delivery bond should be cancelled as instructed on an Immigration and Naturalization Service (legacy INS) memorandum implementing the *Amwest v. Reno* Settlement Agreement. Counsel fails to submit any legacy INS memoranda to support his argument.

The record reflects that a removal hearing was held on July 12, 2002, and the alien was granted voluntary departure from the United States on or before September 10, 2002, with an alternate order of removal to take effect in the event that the alien failed to depart as required. The court ordered that a voluntary departure bond be imposed in the amount of \$3000. A voluntary departure bond was not posted, and the delivery bond remains in effect. The court did not set other conditions on the grant of voluntary departure.

The obligor is bound by the terms of the contract to which it obligated itself. The terms of the Form I-352 for bonds conditioned upon the delivery of the alien establish the following condition: "the obligor shall cause the alien to be produced or to produce himself/herself . . . upon each and every written request until *exclusion/deportation/removal proceedings . . . are finally terminated.*" (Emphasis added). Thus, the obligor is bound to deliver the alien by the express terms of the bond contract until either exclusion, deportation or removal proceedings are finally terminated, or one of the other conditions occurs.

Counsel appears to be referring to the argument that under the *Amwest v. Reno* Settlement Agreement, jurisprudence in *Shrode v. Rowoldt*, 213 F.2d 810 (8<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1954), and section 242(c) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), ICE is required to cancel a delivery bond when it no longer has detention authority over the bonded alien. The Settlement Agreement was entered into prior to the passage of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (IIRAIRA). IIRAIRA removed section 242(c) of the Act, and gave ICE the authority to require delivery bonds in circumstances when it does not have detention authority over an alien.

Notwithstanding that ICE maintains detention authority in this case, as the alien failed to post a voluntary departure bond as ordered by the court, this argument will be addressed. In *Zadvydas v. Davis*, 533 U.S. 678 (2001), the Supreme Court expressly recognized the authority of the legacy INS to require the posting of a bond as a condition of release after it lost detention authority over the alien, even though a bond was not provided as a condition of release by the statute. In *Doan v. INS*, 311 F.3d 1160 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2002), the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit held the legacy INS had the authority to require a \$10,000 delivery bond in a supervised release context even though it did not have detention authority. Even though these cases arose in the post-removal period, it is obvious from the rulings that detention authority is not the sole determining factor as to whether ICE can require a delivery bond.

The bond contract provides that it may be canceled when (1) exclusion/deportation/removal proceedings are finally terminated; (2) the alien is accepted by ICE for detention or deportation/removal; or (3) the bond is otherwise canceled. The circumstances under which the bond may be "otherwise canceled" occur when the Secretary or the Attorney General imposes a requirement for another bond, and the alien posts such a bond, or when an order of removal has been issued and the alien is taken into custody. As the obligor has not shown that any of these circumstances apply, the bond is not canceled.

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 pursuant to the Amwest/Reno Settlement Agreement, entered into on June 22, 1995 by the legacy INS and Far West Surety Insurance Company.

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 ICE 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 evidence of record indicates that the Notice to Deliver Alien was sent to the obligor at 6309-A Skyline Drive, Houston, TX 77057 on December 2, 2003 via certified mail. This notice demanded that the obligor produce the bonded alien on January 2, 2004. The domestic return receipt shows it was signed by a representative of Safety National Casualty Corp., and was subsequently received by ICE. 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).

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 an ICE officer upon each and every request of such officer until removal proceedings are either finally terminated or the alien is accepted by ICE for detention or removal.

It must be noted that delivery bonds are exacted to insure that aliens will be produced when and where required by ICE for hearings or removal. Such bonds are necessary in order for ICE 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 the alien's 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 field office director will not be disturbed.

**ORDER:** The appeal is dismissed.