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U.S. Department of Homeland Security
20 Mass. Avenue, N.W., Rm. A3042
Washington, DC 20529



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

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H/2

[Redacted]

FILE: [Redacted] Office: VIENNA Date: **JAN 28 2005**

IN RE: [Redacted]

APPLICATION: Application for Waiver of Grounds of Inadmissibility under Section 212(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), 8 U.S.C. § 1182(i)

ON BEHALF OF APPLICANT:
[Redacted]

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

Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The waiver application was denied by the Officer-in-Charge, Vienna. The matter is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be rejected as untimely filed.

In order to properly file an appeal, the regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(i) provides that the affected party must file the complete appeal within 30 days of after service of the unfavorable decision. If the decision was mailed, the appeal must be filed within 33 days. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 103.5a(b).

The record indicates that the officer-in-charge issued the decision on July 23, 2003. It is noted that the officer-in-charge properly gave notice to the applicant that an appeal must be filed within 33 days. The period for filing a timely appeal expired on August 25, 2003. The applicant's appeal was filed on December 30, 2003. Accordingly, the appeal was not filed timely and is subject to dismissal pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(B)(1).

The regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(B)(2) states that, if an untimely appeal meets the requirements of a motion to reopen or a motion to reconsider under 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(2) or (3), respectively, the appeal must be treated as a motion, and a decision must be made on the merits of the case. The official having jurisdiction over a motion is the official who made the last decision in the proceeding, in this case the officer-in-charge. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(1)(ii). The officer-in-charge declined to treat the late appeal as a motion and forwarded the matter to the AAO.

As the appeal was untimely filed, the appeal must be rejected.

ORDER: The appeal is rejected.