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**U.S. Citizenship  
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Services**

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FILE: [REDACTED] Office: LIMA Date: **APR 13 2006**

IN RE: [REDACTED]

APPLICATION: Application for Waiver of Grounds of Inadmissibility under section 212(a)(9)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(9)(B)

ON BEHALF OF APPLICANT: Self-represented

**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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert P. Wiemann".

Robert P. Wiemann, Chief  
Administrative Appeals Office

**DISCUSSION:** The Acting Officer in Charge, Lima, Peru, denied the waiver application. 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 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 acting officer in charge issued the decision on June 4, 2004. It is noted that the acting officer in charge properly gave notice to the applicant that he had 33 days to file the appeal with the U.S. Consulate, La Paz, Bolivia. The applicant incorrectly filed the appeal with the AAO. An appeal is not properly filed until the U.S. Consulate, La Paz, Bolivia, receives it. On June 30, 2004, the AAO returned the appeal to the applicant and informed him that he had incorrectly filed the appeal with this office. The appeal was received by the U.S. Consulate, La Paz, Bolivia, on July 19, 2004, or 45 days after the decision was issued. Accordingly, the appeal was untimely filed.

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, 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 acting officer in charge, Lima, Peru. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(1)(ii). The acting 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.