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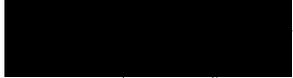
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
20 Mass, Rm. A3042, 425 I Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20536



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services



FILE:

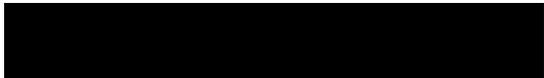


Office: CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER, CA

Date:

IN RE:

Applicant:



FEB 26 2004

APPLICATION: Application for Permission to Reapply for Admission after Removal into the United States after Deportation under section 212(a)(9)(A)(ii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(9)(A)(ii)

ON BEHALF OF APPLICANT: SELF-REPRESENTED

**Identifying data deleted to
prevent clearly unwarranted
invasion of personal privacy**

INSTRUCTIONS:

PUBLIC COPY

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 application for permission to reapply for admission after removal was denied by the Director, California Service Center, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The applicant is a native and citizen of Mexico. On March 18, 1996 in the United States District Court, Southern District of California the applicant was convicted of possession of approximately 67.55 kilograms of marijuana with intent to distribute in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a) (1). He was sentenced to one year and one day of imprisonment and three years of probation after being released from imprisonment. Consequently, on December 20, 1996 the applicant was deported from the United States at the Nogales, Arizona port of entry under section 241(a)(2)(A)(iii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act). The applicant is inadmissible to the United States because he falls within the purview of sections 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(II) and 212(a)(9)(A)(ii) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(2)(A)(i)(II) and 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(9)(A)(ii). The applicant seeks permission to reapply for admission into the United States under section 212(a)(9)(A)(iii) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(9)(A)(iii) in order to travel to the United States as a nonimmigrant visitor.

The director determined that the applicant is not eligible for any relief or benefit from this application and denied the application accordingly. *See Director Decision* dated June 20, 2003.

Section 212(a)(9)(A) of the Act states in pertinent part:

(A) Certain aliens previously removed.-

.....
(ii) Other aliens.-Any alien not described in clause (i) who-

(I) has been ordered removed under section 240 or any other provision of law . . . [and who seeks admission within 10 years of the date of such alien's departure or removal (or within 20 years of such date in the case of a second or subsequent removal or at any time in the case of an alien convicted of an aggravated felony) is inadmissible.]

(iii) Exception.-Clauses (i) and (ii) shall not apply to an alien seeking admission within a period if, prior to the date of the alien's reembarkation at a place outside the United States or attempt to be admitted from foreign contiguous territory, the Attorney General [now Secretary, Homeland Security, "Secretary"] has consented to the alien's reapplying for admission.

A review of the 1996 IIRIRA amendments to the Act and prior statutes and case law regarding permission to reapply for admission, reflects that Congress has (1) increased the bar to admissibility and the waiting period from 5 to 10 years in most instances and to 20 years for others, (2) has added a bar to admissibility for aliens who are unlawfully present in the United States, and (3) has imposed a permanent bar to admission for aliens who have been ordered removed and who subsequently enter or attempt to enter the United States without being lawfully admitted. It is concluded that Congress has placed a high priority on reducing and/or stopping aliens from overstaying their authorized period of stay and/or from being present in the United States without a lawful admission or parole.

On appeal, the applicant asserts that he needs the waiver application in order to obtain a nonimmigrant visa due to his job. No additional documentation or brief has been submitted.

Section 212(a)(2) of the Act states in pertinent part, that:

(A)(i) [A]ny alien convicted of, or who admits having committed, or who admits committing acts which constitute the essential elements of-

(II) a violation of (or a conspiracy or attempt to violate) any law or regulations of a State, the United States, or a foreign country relating to a controlled substance (as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802)), is inadmissible.

Section 212(h) of the Act provides, in pertinent part, that:

(h) The Attorney General [now the Secretary of Homeland Security, "Secretary"] may, in his discretion, waive the application of subparagraphs (A)(i)(I), (B), (D) and (E) of subsection (a)(2) and subparagraph (A)(i)(II) of such subsection insofar as it relate to a single offense of simple possession of 30 grams or less of marijuana.-

The circumstances surrounding the applicant's conviction and the quantity of the controlled substance involved provided reasonable grounds to believe that the applicant was involved in the trafficking of a controlled substance and the director found him excludable under Section 212(a)(2) of the Act.

Section 212(a)(2) of the Act states in pertinent part, that:

(C) Controlled substance traffickers.-

any aliens who the consular officer of the Attorney General knows or has reasons to believe-

(i) is or has been an illicit trafficker in any controlled substance or in any listed chemical (as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802)), or is or has been a knowing aider, abettor, assister, conspirator, or colluder with others in the illicit trafficking in any such controlled or listed substance or chemical, or endeavored to do so.....is inadmissible.

No waiver of the ground of inadmissibility under section 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(II) of the Act is available to an alien found inadmissible under this section except for a single offense of simple possession of thirty grams or less of marijuana. The applicant does not qualify under this exception. Therefore, no purpose would be served in the favorable exercise of discretion in adjudicating the application to reapply for admission into the United States under section 212(a)(9)(A)(iii) of the Act. The applicant is not eligible for any relief under the Act and the appeal will be dismissed.

ORDER: The appeal is dismissed.