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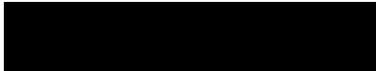


Office: CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER

Date: OCT 13 2005

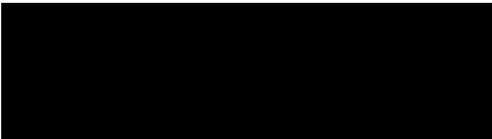
IN RE:

Applicant:



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

ON BEHALF OF APPLICANT:



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 Application for Permission to Reapply for Admission into the United States after Deportation or Removal (Form I-212) 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 who attempted to procure admission into the United States on November 29, 1997, by fraud and willful misrepresentation of a material fact. The applicant presented a border-crossing card that did not belong to her. The applicant was found inadmissible pursuant to section 212(a)(6)(C)(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1182 (a)(6)(C)(i) for having attempted to procure admission into the United States by fraud and section 212(a)(7)(A)(i)(I) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1182 (a)(7)(A)(i)(I) for being an immigrant not in possession of a valid immigrant visa or other valid entry document. Consequently, on December 1, 1997, the applicant was expeditiously removed from the United States pursuant to section 235(b)(1) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(1). On July 12, 2000, the applicant appeared at a Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) office for a scheduled interview regarding her application for adjustment of status. The applicant admitted having reentered the United States on December 6, 1997, without a lawful admission or parole, and without permission to reapply for admission in violation of section 276 the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1326. On the same day her prior removal order was reinstated pursuant to section 241(a)(5) of the Act and the applicant was removed to Mexico. The applicant is inadmissible pursuant to section 212(a)(9)(A)(i) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(9)(A)(i) and 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 to reside with her U.S. citizen spouse and children.

The Director determined that section 241(a)(5) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1231(a)(5) applies in this matter and the applicant is not eligible and may not apply for any relief or benefit under the Act and denied the Form I-212 accordingly. See *Director Decision* dated June 9, 2004.

Section 241(a) detention, release, and removal or aliens ordered removed.-

(5) reinstatement of removal orders against aliens illegally reentering.- if the attorney General finds that an aliens has reentered the United States illegally after having been removed or having departed voluntarily, under an order of removal, the prior order of removal is reinstated from its original date and is not subject to being reopened or reviewed, the aliens is not eligible and may not apply for any relief under this Act [chapter], and the aliens shall be removed under the prior order at any time after reentry.

The AAO finds that the Director erred in finding that section 241(a)(5) of the Act applies in this case. The record of proceedings does not reflect that the applicant re-entered the United States after the reinstatement of her removal order and her second removal on July 12, 2000. The applicant states that she lives in Mexico and there is no documentary evidence to show otherwise.

On appeal the applicant states that all her family members are U.S. citizens and they reside in the United States. In addition the applicant states that she returned to the United States, after her first removal, based on bad advice from an individual whom her husband believed to be an immigration specialist. The applicant's spouse states that he and their children would be devastated if she were not permitted to reside in the U.S. The applicant's spouse further states that he is due to undergo surgery and the applicant is needed in order to

provide moral, emotional, psychological and financial support to him and their children. The applicant submits documentation that show that her spouse is not employed and is on disability due to a car accident.

Before the AAO can adjudicate the appeal and weigh the discretionary factors in this case, it must first determine whether the applicant is eligible to apply for any relief under the Act.

The AAO conducts the final administrative review and enters the ultimate decision for CIS on all immigration matters that fall within its jurisdiction. The AAO reviews each case de novo as to all questions of law, fact, discretion, or any other issue that may arise in an appeal that falls under its jurisdiction. Because the AAO engages in de novo review, the AAO may deny an application or petition that fails to comply with the technical requirements of the law, without remand, even if the district or service center director does not identify all of the grounds for denial in the initial decision. See *Helvering v. Gowran*, 302 U.S. 238, 245-246 (1937); see also, *Spencer Enterprises, Inc. v. United States*, 229 F. Supp. 2d 1025, 1043 (E.D. Cal. 2001), *affd.* 345 F.3d 683 (9th Cir. 2003).

To recapitulate, the applicant was removed from the United States on December 1, 1997, and July 12, 2000. The applicant reentered the United States after her December 1, 1997 removal without a lawful admission or parole and without permission to reapply for admission. The AAO finds that although the applicant is not subject to section 241(a)(5) of the Act, she is clearly inadmissible under section 212(a)(9)(A) and 212(a)(9)(C)(i) of the Act and therefore must receive permission to reapply for admission.

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

(A) Certain aliens previously removed.-

(i) Arriving aliens.- Any alien who has been ordered removed under section 235(b)(1) or at the end of proceedings under section 240 initiated upon the alien's arrival in the United States and who again seeks admission within five years of the date of such removal (or within 20 years 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.

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

(C) Aliens unlawfully present after previous immigration violations.-

(i) In general.-Any alien who-

((I) has been unlawfully present in the United States for an aggregate period of more than 1 year, or

((II) has been ordered removed under section 235(b)(1), section 240, or any other provision of law, and who enters or attempts to reenter the United States without being admitted is inadmissible.

(ii) Exception.- Clause (i) shall not apply to an alien seeking admission more than 10 years after the date of the alien's last departure from the United States if, prior to the alien's reembarkation at a place outside the United States or attempt to be readmitted from a foreign contiguous territory, the Attorney General [now the Secretary of Homeland Security, "Secretary"] has consented to the alien's reapplying for admission. The Attorney General in the Attorney General's discretion may waive the provisions of section 212(a)(9)(C)(i) in the case of an alien to whom the Attorney General has granted classification under clause (iii), (iv), or (v) of section 204(a)(1)(A), or classification under clause (ii), (iii), or (iv) of section 204(a)(1)(B), in any case in which there is a connection between—

(1) the alien's having been battered or subjected to extreme cruelty; and

(2) the alien's--

(A) removal;

(B) departure from the United States;

(C) reentry or reentries into the United States; or

(D) attempted reentry into the United States.

An alien who is inadmissible under section 212(a)(9)(C)(i) of the Act may not apply for consent to reapply unless the alien is "seeking admission more than ten years after the date of the alien's last departure." See Section 212(a)(9)(C)(ii) of the Act. Thus, to avoid inadmissibility under section 212(a)(9)(C) of the Act, it must be the case that the applicant's last departure was at least ten years ago *and* that CIS has consented to the applicant's reapplying for admission. In the present matter, the applicant's last departure from the United States occurred on July 12, 2000, considerably less than ten years ago.

Section 291 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1361, provides that the burden of proof is upon the applicant to establish that the applicant is eligible for the benefit sought. The applicant in the instant case does not qualify for an exception under section 212(a)(9)(C)(ii) of the Act. Thus, as a matter of law, the applicant is not eligible for approval of a Form I-212. Accordingly, the appeal will be dismissed.

DECISION: The appeal is dismissed.