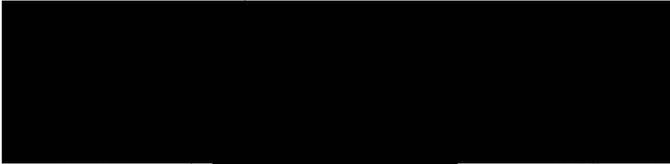


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prevent clearly unwarranted
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U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

PUBLIC COPY



FILE: [REDACTED]
XMA 88 133 04041

Office: VERMONT SERVICE CENTER

Date: **OCT 05 2006**

IN RE: Applicant: [REDACTED]

APPLICATION: Application for Status as a Temporary Resident pursuant to Section 245A of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as amended, 8 U.S.C. § 1255a

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 black ink, appearing to read "R. Wiemann".

Robert P. Wiemann, Chief
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The termination of temporary resident status by the Director, Vermont Service Center, is before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be rejected. The AAO will return the matter for further action by the director.

The director terminated the applicant's temporary resident status because the applicant failed to file the Form I-698, Application for Adjustment of Status from Temporary to Permanent Resident, within the 43-month application period.

An alien may appeal a decision to terminate his temporary resident status to the AAO. Any appeal with the required fee shall be filed with the service center within thirty (30) days after service of the notice of termination. 8 C.F.R. § 245a.2(u)(2)(i). An appeal received after the thirty-day period has tolled will not be accepted. 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(3)(iv)(C). Whenever a person has the right or is required to do some act within a prescribed period after the service of a notice upon him and the notice is served by mail, three days shall be added to the prescribed period. Service by mail is complete upon mailing. 8 C.F.R. § 103.5a(b).

By letter dated August 14, 1995, the applicant notified the service center of his new address. The director issued the notice of termination on October 23, 1995, and mailed it to the applicant at [REDACTED] previously listed address. The appeal was received on September 20, 1999. Therefore, the appeal was untimely filed, and must be rejected.

It must be noted that the director did not mail the notice of termination to the applicant's address of record.

The regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 103.5a(c) provides:

In any proceeding which is initiated by the Service, with proposed adverse effect, service of the initiating notice and of notice of any decision by a Service officer shall be accomplished by personal service.

Pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 103.5a(a)(2), 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 untimely filing of the appeal appears to be due to the director's error. Pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 245a.2(q), the director may *sua sponte* reopen any adverse decision. Additionally, the director may certify any such decision to the AAO. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 245a.2(r).

ORDER: The appeal is rejected.