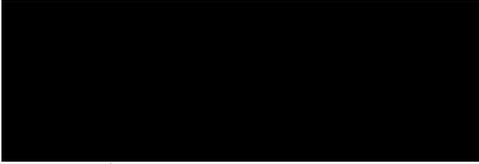
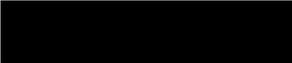




U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services



FILE:



Office: Los Angeles

Date:

SEP 08 2004

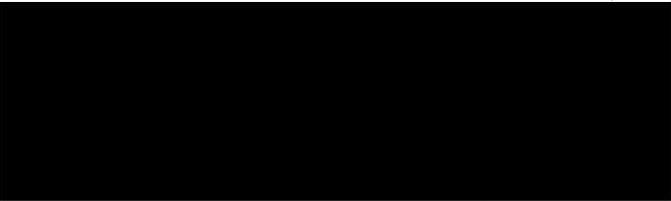
IN RE:

Applicant:



PETITION: Application for Status as a Permanent Resident pursuant to Section 1104 of the Legal Immigration Family Equity (LIFE) Act of 2000, Pub. L. 106-553, 114 Stat. 2762 (2000), amended by LIFE Act Amendments, Pub. L. 106-554, 114 Stat. 2763 (2000).

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. If your appeal was sustained, or if the matter was remanded for further action, you will be contacted. If your appeal was dismissed, you no longer have a case pending before this office, and you are not entitled to file a motion to reopen or reconsider your case.

Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

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Identifying data deleted to
prevent clearly unwarranted
invasion of personal privacy

DISCUSSION: The application for permanent resident status under the Legal Immigration Family Equity (LIFE) Act was denied by the District Director, Los Angeles, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be rejected.

The district director concluded the applicant had not established that he had applied for class membership in any of the requisite legalization class-action lawsuits prior to October 1, 2000 and, therefore, denied the application. In addition, it was determined that the applicant was inadmissible as an alien who has been convicted of, or admits having committed, or admits committing acts which constitute the essential elements of a violation of (or a conspiracy to violate) any law or regulation 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 USC 802), as set forth in section 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(II) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA).

On appeal, counsel for the applicant asserts the director's decision denying the application constituted an abuse of discretion. In addition, counsel submitted a separate brief in support of the applicant's appeal.

An affected party filing from within the United States has 30 days from the date of an adverse decision to file an appeal. An appeal received after the 30 day period has tolled will not be accepted. The 30 day period for submitting an appeal begins 3 days after the Notice of Decision is mailed. 8 C.F.R. § 245a.20(b) (1).

If an applicant's last known address of record was outside the United States, and the Notice of Decision was mailed to that foreign address, the appeal must be received by the Service within 60 calendar days after service of the Notice of Decision. An appeal received after the 60 day period has tolled will not be accepted. The 60-day period for submitting an appeal begins 3 days after the Notice of Decision is mailed. 8 C.F.R. § 245a.20(b) (2).

The record reflects that the district director sent her decision of November 18, 2003 to the applicant and to counsel at their respective addresses of record. Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) did not receive the appeal, properly filed, until 52 days later on January 9, 2004. The appeal was, therefore, untimely filed.

The burden of proving eligibility for the benefit sought remains entirely with the applicant. Section 291 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1361. The applicant has not sustained that burden.

ORDER: The appeal is rejected as untimely filed.