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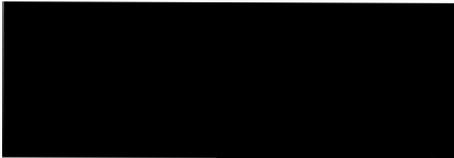
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
20 Mass. Ave., N.W., Rm. 3000  
Washington, DC 20529



U.S. Citizenship  
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FILE:

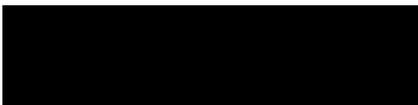
MSC 02 085 62934

Office: DALLAS

Date: SEP 06 2006

IN RE:

Applicant:



APPLICATION:

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:

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. 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. P. Wiemann".

Robert P. Wiemann, Chief  
Administrative Appeals Office

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

The director denied the application because the applicant had failed to establish that he satisfied the “basic citizenship skills” required under section 1104(c)(2)(E) of the LIFE Act.

On appeal, the applicant claims that she is registered in a citizenship class offered by the Dallas Independent District and should therefore be given another opportunity to prove that she is able to meet the basic citizenship skills requirement.

The Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal to the Administrative Appeals Unit, is not signed. The regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 103.2(a)(1) provides, in part, that “[e]very application, petition, appeal, motion, request . . . shall be executed and filed in accordance with the instructions on the form, such instructions . . . being hereby incorporated into the particular section of the regulations in this chapter requiring its submission.” The instructions at item six on the Form I-290B specifically require a signature on this form when the decision is appealed.

As the Form I-290B was not signed by applicant or anyone authorized to act on her behalf in accordance with 8 C.F.R. § 103.2(a)(3), the appeal has not been properly filed, and must be rejected.

In addition, 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).

The record reflects that the director sent her decision on May 16, 2004 to the applicant at his address of record. CIS received the appeal 35 days later on June 21, 2004. Therefore, the appeal was untimely filed.

**ORDER:** The appeal is rejected.