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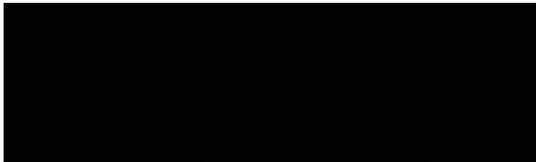
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
20 Mass. Ave., N.W., Rm. 3000
Washington, DC 20529



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

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FILE: [REDACTED]
MSC 02 044 63261

Office: DALLAS

Date: SEP 11 2006

IN RE: Applicant: [REDACTED]

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.

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, Texas, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be rejected.

The district director denied the application because the applicant had not demonstrated that she had continuously resided in the United States in an unlawful status from before January 1, 1982 through May 4, 1988. Section 1104(2)(c)(B) of the LIFE Act; 8 C.F.R. § 245a.11(b).

On appeal, the applicant stated that she has lived in the United States since 1981, but that it is difficult for her to obtain proof as she initially lived in another state.

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 three 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 of January 28, 2004 to the applicant at her address of record in the United States. The applicant initially sent her appeal directly to the AAO, who returned it with instructions on where the appeal should be properly filed. We note that the director specifically informed the applicant in her Notice of Denial that the decision must be filed with Dallas District Office. The Dallas District Office received the appeal on March 4, 2004, 36 days after the director's decision. Therefore, the appeal was untimely filed.

ORDER: The appeal is rejected as untimely filed.