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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

PUBLIC COPY

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[REDACTED]

FILE: [REDACTED]
MSC 02 250 63389

Office: HOUSTON

Date: OCT 02 2007

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:

[REDACTED]

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, Houston, 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 he had continuously resided in the United States in an unlawful status from before January 1, 1982 through May 4, 1988. Section 1104(c)(2)(B) of the LIFE Act; 8 C.F.R. § 245a.11(b).

On appeal, counsel asserts that the “perceived factual discrepancy[s] enumerated in the August 12, 2003 Notice of Intent to Deny are so minor as to be insignificant.” Counsel submits a letter and additional documentation in support of the 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 three days after the Notice of Decision is mailed. 8 C.F.R. § 245a.20(b)(1).

The record reflects that the director sent his decision of February 25, 2004 to the applicant and counsel at their addresses of record in the United States. The Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal to the Administrative Appeals Unit, dated March 18, 2004, was returned because it was 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. Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) received the properly signed appeal 34 days later on March 30, 2004. Therefore, the appeal was untimely filed.

ORDER: The appeal is rejected as untimely filed.