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U.S. Department of Homeland Security
20 Mass. Ave., N.W., Rm. A3042
Washington, DC 20529

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

[redacted]

FILE: [redacted] Office: MIAMI, FLORIDA Date: NOV 17 2004

IN RE: Applicant: [redacted]

APPLICATION: Application for Permanent Residence Pursuant to Section 1 of the Cuban Adjustment Act of November 2, 1966 (P.L. 89-732)

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.

Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The application was denied by the District Director, Miami, Florida, who certified his decision to the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) for review. The District Director's decision will be affirmed.

The applicant is a native and citizen of Cuba who filed this application for adjustment of status to that of a lawful permanent resident under section 1 of the Cuban Adjustment Act (CAA) of November 2, 1966. The CAA provides, in part:

> [T]he status of any alien who is a native or citizen of Cuba and who has been inspected and admitted or paroled into the United States subsequent to January 1, 1959 and has been physically present in the United States for at least one year, may be adjusted by the Attorney General, (now the Secretary of Homeland Security, (Secretary)), in his discretion and under such regulations as he may prescribe, to that of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence if the alien makes an application for such adjustment, and the alien is eligible to receive an immigrant visa and is admissible to the United States for permanent residence.

The District Director found the applicant inadmissible to the United States because he falls within the purview of sections 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(II) and 212(a)(2)(C) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(2)(A)(i)(II) and 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(2)(C). The District Director, therefore, concluded that the applicant was ineligible for adjustment of status and denied the application. *See District Director's Decision* dated February 17, 2004.

The applicant has provided no statement or additional evidence on notice of certification.

> Section 212(a)(2) of the Act states in pertinent part, that:
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> (A)(i) [A]ny alien convicted of, or who admits having committed, or who admits committing acts which constitute the essential elements of-
>
> > (I) a crime involving moral turpitude (other than a purely political offense) or an attempt or conspiracy to commit such a crime, or
> >
> > (II) a violation of (or a conspiracy or attempt 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 U.S.C. § 802).
>
> . . . .
>
> (C) Controlled substance traffickers.-
>
> any aliens who the consular officer of the Attorney General knows or has reasons to believe-
>
> > (i) is or has been an illicit trafficker in any controlled substance or in any listed chemical (as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802)), or is or has been a knowing aider, abettor, assister, conspirator, or colluder

> with others in the illicit trafficking in any such controlled or listed substance or chemical, or endeavored to do so; or.....is inadmissible.

The record reflects that on March 7, 1985, the applicant was convicted in the Circuit Court of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit in and for the County of Hillsborough, Florida for the offences of possession of cocaine and possession of cannabis. On August 14, 1989, the applicant was convicted again in the Circuit Court of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit in and for the County of Hillsborough, Florida for the offence of possession of cocaine.

A review of the information in the record of proceedings does support a finding of inadmissibility under section 212(a)(2)(C) of the Act. Nevertheless, the AAO finds that the applicant is clearly inadmissible under section 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(II) of the Act. There is no waiver available to an alien found inadmissible under this section of the Act, except for a single offense of simple possession of thirty grams or less of marijuana. The applicant does not qualify under this exception.

The applicant is ineligible for adjustment of status to permanent residence, pursuant to section 1 of the CAA of November 2, 1966. The decision of the District Director to deny the application will be affirmed.

ORDER: The District Director's decision is affirmed.