U.S. Department of Homeland Security
20 Mass, Rm. A3042, 425 I Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20529

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Identifying data deleted to prevent clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy

[redacted]

B6

File: [redacted] Office: VERMONT SERVICE CENTER Date:

IN RE: Petitioner:
Beneficiary: [redacted]

Petition: Immigrant petition for Alien Worker as a Skilled Worker or Professional pursuant to section 203(b)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1153(b)(3)

ON BEHALF OF PETITIONER:

[redacted]

INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision 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 Director, Vermont Service Center, revoked approval of the preference visa petition that is now before the Administrative Appeals Office on appeal. The appeal will be rejected as untimely filed.

In order to properly file an appeal, the regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 205.2(d) provides that the affected party must file the complete appeal within 15 days of after service of the unfavorable decision. If the decision was mailed, the appeal must be filed within 18 days. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 103.5a(b).

The record indicates that the director issued the decision on May 29, 2003. Although the director incorrectly stated in the decision that the petitioner had 33 days in which to file an appeal, the director may not alter the regulations be error or fiat. Counsel dated the appeal June 27, 2003. It was received by Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) on July 11, 2003, or 43 days after the decision was issued. Accordingly, the appeal was untimely filed.

The regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(B)(*2*) states that, if an untimely appeal meets the requirements of a motion to reopen or a motion to reconsider, the appeal must be treated as a motion, and a decision must be made on the merits of the case. The official having jurisdiction over a motion is the official who made the last decision in the proceeding, in this case the service center director. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(1)(ii). The director declined to treat the late appeal as a motion and forwarded the matter to the AAO.

As the appeal was untimely filed, the appeal must be rejected.

ORDER: The appeal is rejected.