U.S. Department of Homeland Security
20 Mass, Rm. A3042, 425 I Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20536

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

[redacted]

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

IN RE: Petitioner: [redacted]
Beneficiary:

Petition: Immigrant Petition for Special Immigrant Religious Worker Pursuant to Section 203(b)(4) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1153(b)(4), as described at Section 101(a)(27)(C) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(27)(C)

IN BEHALF OF PETITIONER:

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 employment-based immigrant visa petition was denied by the Director, Texas Service Center, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office on appeal. The appeal will be rejected.

The petitioner seeks to classify the beneficiary as a special immigrant religious worker pursuant to section 203(b)(4) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1153(b)(4), to perform services as a minister. The director determined that the petitioner had not established that beneficiary had the requisite two years of experience in the occupation prior to the filing of the petition. The director further found that the petitioner failed to establish it could pay the beneficiary the offered wage. Finally, the director determined that the petitioner failed to submit evidence to establish that it qualified as a nonprofit organization. The petition was denied on June 30, 2003.

8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(1)(iii) states, in pertinent part:

> (B) *Meaning of affected party.* For purposes of this section and sections 103.4 and 103.5 of this part, *affected party* (in addition to Citizenship and Immigration Services [CIS]) means the person or entity with legal standing in a proceeding. It does not include the beneficiary of a visa petition.

8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v) states:

> *Improperly filed appeal -- (A) Appeal filed by person or entity not entitled to file it -- (1) Rejection without refund of filing fee.* An appeal filed by a person or entity not entitled to file it must be rejected as improperly filed. In such a case, any filing fee CIS has accepted will not be refunded.

The appeal has not been filed by the petitioner, nor by any entity with legal standing in the proceeding, but rather by the beneficiary, who personally signed the I-290B Notice of Appeal, and identified himself, rather than the petitioner, as the "Person Filing Appeal" on that form. Therefore, the appeal has not been properly filed, and must be rejected, pursuant to the above regulations.

ORDER: The appeal is rejected.