U.S. Department of Homeland Security
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Washington, DC 20536

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U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

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FEB 0 2 2004

FILE: SRC 02 250 53780 Office: TEXAS SERVICE CENTER Date:

IN RE: Petitioner: [redacted]
Beneficiary:

PETITION: Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker Pursuant to Section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b)

ON BEHALF OF PETITIONER:

[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. Any further inquiry must be made to that office.

Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The service center director denied the nonimmigrant visa petition and the matter is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be rejected.

The petitioner is a gas station and auto shop that seeks to employ the beneficiary as convenience store manager and certified auto mechanic. The petitioner endeavors to classify the beneficiary as a nonimmigrant worker in a specialty occupation pursuant to section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1101 (a)(15)(H)(i)(b). The director denied the petition on the basis that the beneficiary was not qualified to perform the duties of a specialty occupation.

The beneficiary, not an authorized representative of the petitioner, signed the Form G-28, Entry of Appearance as Attorney or Representative that was submitted in conjunction with the appeal. Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) regulations specifically state that a beneficiary of a visa petition is not a recognized party in a proceeding. 8 C.F.R. § 103.2(a)(3). As the beneficiary is not a recognized party, counsel is not authorized to file an appeal. 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(1)(iii)(B). Accordingly, the AAO will reject the appeal pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(A)(1).

ORDER: The appeal is rejected.