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U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U. S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Office of Administrative Appeals, MS 2090
Washington, DC 20529-2090



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

PUBLIC COPY

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[Redacted]

File: [Redacted] Office: PHILADELPHIA Date: JUL 15 2010

IN RE: Applicant: [Redacted]

Application: Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status (Form I-485) Pursuant to Section 245 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1255

ON BEHALF OF APPLICANT:

[Redacted]

INSTRUCTIONS:

Enclosed please find the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office in your case. All of the documents related to this matter have been returned to the office that originally decided your case. Please be advised that any further inquiry that you might have concerning your case must be made to that office.

Thank you,

Perry Rhew
Chief, Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The application was denied by the Field Office Director, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and the matter is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be rejected.

The record reflects that the applicant is a native and citizen of China. On October 30, 2008, the director denied the applicant's Form I-485, Application to Register Permanent Resident or Adjust Status. The applicant submitted an appeal from the director's denial of the I-485 application. The AAO does not have appellate jurisdiction over an appeal from the denial of an application for adjustment of status under section 245(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act). 8 C.F.R. § 245.2(a)(5)(ii).

The authority to adjudicate appeals is delegated to the AAO by the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) pursuant to the authority vested in her through the Homeland Security Act of 2002, Pub. L. 107-296. See DHS Delegation Number 0150.1 (effective March 1, 2003); see also 8 C.F.R. § 2.1 (2003). The AAO exercises appellate jurisdiction only over the matters described at 8 C.F.R. § 103.1(f)(3)(iii) (as in effect on February 28, 2003), with one exception - petitions for approval of schools and the appeals of denials of such petitions are now the responsibility of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

The AAO has jurisdiction to review denials of applications for adjustment of status filed by aliens seeking the bona fide marriage exemption and aliens in U or T nonimmigrant status. Section 245(e), (l) and (m) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1255(e), (l), (m); 8 C.F.R. §§ 245.1(c)(8)(viii), 245.23(i), 245.24(f)(2). The AAO has no jurisdiction to review denials of applications for adjustment of status under section 245(a) of the Act. 8 C.F.R. § 245.2(a)(5)(ii). Accordingly, the appeal must be rejected.¹

ORDER: The appeal is rejected.

¹ Even if the AAO had appellate jurisdiction over this appeal, it would have been rejected because it was not timely filed. The director issued the denial decision on October 30, 2008 and the appeal was received by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) 193 days later, on May 11, 2009. An affected party must file the complete appeal within 30 days of service of the unfavorable decision. 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(i). If the decision was mailed, the appeal must be filed within 33 days. See 8 C.F.R. § 103.5a(b).