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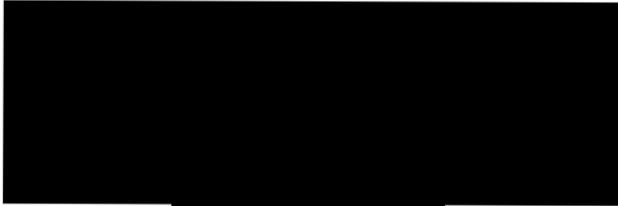
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
20 Mass. Ave. N.W., Rm. 3000
Washington, DC 20529



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

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FILE: [REDACTED] Office: CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER Date: SEP 29 2008
SRC 06 212 53609

IN RE: Petitioner: [REDACTED]
Beneficiary: [REDACTED]

PETITION: 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)

ON 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.

2 Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

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

The petitioner is an organization whose purpose is to plan churches, to organize religious activities and to aid the needy and homeless. It seeks to classify the beneficiary as a 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), to perform services as president of its women's services, and education and spiritual leader. The director determined that the petitioner had not established that the position qualified as that of a religious worker.

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

(B) Meaning of affected party. For purposes of this section and §§ 103.4 and 103.5 of this part, *affected party* (in addition to the Service) means the person or entity with legal standing in a proceeding. It does not include the beneficiary of a visa petition.

The regulation at 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 the Service has accepted will not be refunded.

Only an affected party, a person or entity with legal standing, may file an appeal of an unfavorable decision. It is noted that the only G-28, Notice of Entry of Appearance as Attorney or Representative, in the record of proceeding is on behalf of the beneficiary, and has been signed by the beneficiary and not by the petitioner. The appeal has not been filed by the petitioner or by any entity with legal standing in the proceeding, but rather, by counsel for the beneficiary. Therefore the appeal has not been properly filed and must be rejected.

ORDER: The appeal is rejected.