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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**

[REDACTED]

C,

DATE: OFFICE: CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER FILE: [REDACTED]

**MAR 12 2012**

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:

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 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.<sup>1</sup>

Part 1 of the Form I-360, Petition for Amerasian, Widow(er) or Special Immigrant, filed with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) on July 12, 2010 indicates that [REDACTED] is the petitioner. Review of the petition, however, indicates that [REDACTED] signed the petition. An applicant or petitioner must sign his or her own application or petition. 8 C.F.R. § 103.2(a)(2). In this instance, Part 10 of the petition, "Signature," has not been signed by any official of the [REDACTED] but rather by the alien himself. Therefore, the [REDACTED] cannot be considered as having filed the petition on behalf of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] shall be considered as the self-petitioner.

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.

As indicated above, only an affected party may file an appeal of an unfavorable decision. However, as previously stated, the [REDACTED] is not the petitioner. The Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal or Motion, is signed by [REDACTED] on behalf of the [REDACTED]. The appeal has not been filed by the petitioner or by any entity with legal standing in the proceeding. Therefore, the appeal has not been properly filed and must be rejected.

**ORDER:** The appeal is rejected.

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<sup>1</sup> On January 24, 2012, [REDACTED] submitted a request to withdraw the petition. However, since [REDACTED] was not the petitioner, as explained in this decision, the AAO cannot grant this withdrawal request.