



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

D2

[REDACTED]

Date: NOV 21 2012 Office: CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER FILE [REDACTED]

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

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 IN THE FORM I-129 PROCEEDING:

[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.

If you believe the AAO inappropriately applied the law in reaching its decision, or you have additional information that you wish to have considered, you may file a motion to reconsider or a motion to reopen in accordance with the instructions on Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal or Motion, with a fee of \$630. The specific requirements for filing such a motion can be found at 8 C.F.R. § 103.5. **Do not file any motion directly with the AAO.** Please be aware that 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(1)(i) requires any motion to be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reconsider or reopen.

Thank you,

Ron Rosenberg
Acting Chief, Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The director of the California Service Center 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, which claims to be a provider of health care services, seeks to employ the beneficiary as a physical therapist. Accordingly, 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, finding that the beneficiary did not meet the applicable licensure requirements for the proffered position and therefore was not qualified to perform the duties of a specialty occupation position.

Effective March 4, 2010, the regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 292.4(a) requires that a “new [Form G-28] must be filed with an appeal filed with the [AAO].” Title 8 C.F.R. § 292.4(a) further requires that the Form G-28 “must be properly completed and signed by the petitioner, applicant, or respondent to authorize representation in order for the appearance to be recognized by DHS.” Although counsel in this matter previously entered his appearance prior to the instant Form I-129’s adjudication on May 14, 2010, the record does not contain a new, properly executed Form G-28, Notice of Entry of Appearance as Attorney or Accredited Representative, personally signed by both counsel and by an authorized official of the petitioning entity for the Form I-290B filed with the AAO.

On October 23, 2012, the AAO sent a request for a new Form G-28 to prior counsel via facsimile transmission. Specifically, the AAO advised that without a new, valid, and fully executed Form G-28, signed by an official of the petitioning entity authorizing counsel to represent the petitioner, the AAO would not consider the appeal to have been properly filed. Pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(A)(2) and its subclauses, counsel was instructed to submit a duly executed Form G-28 by mail or fax within fifteen (15) calendar days. Prior counsel was further advised that failure to timely respond to the AAO’s request would result in the rejection of the appeal. As of the date of this decision, no correspondence from counsel has been received.

Absent a new and properly executed Form G-28, prior counsel cannot be considered the petitioner’s attorney of record with regard to the appeal currently before the AAO. U.S. Department of Homeland Security regulations specifically prohibit the filing of an appeal by an attorney or representative without a properly executed Form G-28 entitling that person to file the appeal. 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(A)(2)(i).

An appeal filed by a person or entity not entitled to file it must be rejected as improperly filed. 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(A)(I). As prior counsel is not a recognized party in the Form I-290B proceeding, counsel is not authorized to file an appeal. *Id.*; 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(1)(iii)(B).

As the appeal was not properly filed, it will be rejected. 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(A)(I).

ORDER: The appeal is rejected. The petition is denied.