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U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

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H4

FILE: [REDACTED] Office: CIUDAD JUAREZ Date: MAR 18 2009
(CDJ 2004 725 644 relates)

IN RE: [REDACTED]

APPLICATION: Application for Waiver of Grounds of Inadmissibility under Section 212(a)(9)(B)(v) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(9)(B)(v)

ON BEHALF OF APPLICANT:

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.

If you believe the law was inappropriately applied or you have additional information that you wish to have considered, you may file a motion to reconsider or a motion to reopen. Please refer to 8 C.F.R. § 103.5 for the specific requirements. All motions must be submitted to the office that originally decided your case by filing a Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal or Motion, with a fee of \$585. Any motion must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reconsider or reopen, as required by 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(1)(i).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John F. Grissom".
John F. Grissom, Acting Chief
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The waiver application was denied by the Officer in Charge, Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. The matter is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The record reflects that the applicant is a native and citizen of Mexico who was found to be inadmissible to the United States pursuant to section 212(a)(9)(B)(i)(II) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(9)(B)(i)(II), for having been unlawfully present in the United States for more than one year. The applicant is married to a naturalized U.S. citizen and seeks a waiver of inadmissibility pursuant to section 212(a)(9)(B)(v) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(9)(B)(v), in order to reside with his wife and child in the United States.

The officer in charge found that the applicant failed to establish extreme hardship to his U.S. citizen spouse and denied the application accordingly. *Decision of the Officer in Charge*, dated February 16, 2006.

On appeal, the applicant's wife [REDACTED] claims she has suffered extreme mental hardship because of her husband's immigration process, the loss of her first child during pregnancy, and her high risk second pregnancy.

The record contains, *inter alia*: a letter from [REDACTED] a copy of the couple's daughter's birth certificate; two letters from [REDACTED] s doctors; copies of [REDACTED] s medical records; and a copy of an approved Petition for Alien Relative (Form I-130). The entire record was reviewed and considered in rendering this decision on the appeal.

Section 212(a)(9)(B) of the Act provides, in pertinent part:

Aliens Unlawfully Present.-

(i) In general. - Any alien (other than an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence) who -

(II) has been unlawfully present in the United States for one year or more, and who again seeks admission within 10 years of the date of such alien's departure or removal from the United States, is inadmissible.

....

(v) Waiver. – The Attorney General [now the Secretary of Homeland Security (Secretary)] has sole discretion to waive clause (i) in the case of an

immigrant who is the spouse or son or daughter of a United States citizen or of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence, if it is established to the satisfaction of the Attorney General [Secretary] that the refusal of admission to such immigrant alien would result in extreme hardship to the citizen or lawfully resident spouse or parent of such alien.

In this case, the officer in charge found, and the applicant does not contest, that the applicant entered the United States in February 1999 without inspection and remained until 2002. The applicant accrued unlawful presence of over one year. He now seeks admission within ten years of his 2002 departure. Accordingly, he is inadmissible to the United States under section 212(a)(9)(B)(i)(II) of the Act for being unlawfully present in the United States for a period of more than one year.

A section 212(a)(9)(B)(v) waiver of the bar to admission resulting from section 212(a)(9)(B)(i)(II) of the Act is dependent first upon a showing that the bar imposes an extreme hardship to the U.S. citizen or lawfully resident spouse or parent of the applicant. *See* section 212(a)(9)(B)(v) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(9)(B)(v). Once extreme hardship is established, it is but one favorable factor to be considered in the determination of whether the Secretary should exercise discretion. *See Matter of Mendez*, 21 I&N Dec. 296 (BIA 1996).

Matter of Cervantes-Gonzalez, 22 I&N Dec. 560, 565-566 (BIA 1999), provides a list of factors the Board of Immigration Appeals deems relevant in determining whether an alien has established extreme hardship under the Act. These factors include: the presence of a lawful permanent resident or United States citizen spouse or parent in this country; the qualifying relative's family ties outside the United States; the conditions in the country or countries to which the qualifying relative would relocate and the extent of the qualifying relative's ties in such countries; the financial impact of departure from this country; and significant conditions of health, particularly when tied to an unavailability of suitable medical care in the country to which the qualifying relative would relocate.

It is not evident from the record that the applicant has suffered or will suffer extreme hardship as a result of the applicant's waiver being denied.

In this case, [REDACTED] states that she and the applicant got married in Mexico on August 16, 2003. She states that she got pregnant and spent a few months in Mexico, but that she lost the fetus. She states that she got pregnant a second time and gave birth to the couple's daughter. Ms. [REDACTED] states she and her daughter need the applicant by their side to take care of them. She claims she has suffered extreme mental hardship "when [she] lost [her] first son, the second one the high delay in the process of my husband immigration process, combined to my high risk pregnancy [sic]." *Letter from [REDACTED]* dated November 9, 2005.

The AAO recognizes that [REDACTED] has endured hardship since the applicant departed the United States and is sympathetic to the family's circumstances. However, there is insufficient evidence in the record to show extreme hardship. Significantly, [REDACTED] does not discuss the possibility of moving to Mexico, where she was born and where she married the applicant, to avoid the hardship

of separation, and she does not address whether such a move would represent a hardship to her. Their situation, if [REDACTED] remains in the United States, is typical to individuals separated as a result of deportation or exclusion and does not rise to the level of extreme hardship based on the record. The Board of Immigration Appeals and the Courts of Appeals have repeatedly held that the common results of deportation or exclusion are insufficient to prove extreme hardship. For example, *Matter of Pilch*, 21 I&N Dec. 627 (BIA 1996), held that emotional hardship caused by severing family and community ties is a common result of deportation and does not constitute extreme hardship. In addition, *Perez v. INS*, 96 F.3d 390 (9th Cir. 1996), held that the common results of deportation are insufficient to prove extreme hardship and defined extreme hardship as hardship that was unusual or beyond that which would normally be expected upon deportation. *See also Hassan v. INS*, 927 F.2d 465, 468 (9th Cir. 1991) (uprooting of family and separation from friends does not necessarily amount to extreme hardship but rather represents the type of inconvenience and hardship experienced by the families of most aliens being deported).

In addition, regarding [REDACTED] suggestion that losing her first child, combined with the problems associated with her husband's immigration status caused her to have a high risk pregnancy, there is no evidence in the record to support such an assertion. The two letters in the record from Ms. [REDACTED] doctors make no such contention. *Letter from [REDACTED]* dated November 7, 2005 (stating the dates [REDACTED] has been a patient); *Letter from [REDACTED]* dated November 5, 2005 (stating [REDACTED] had an abortion in 2003). Therefore, although the AAO does not doubt that [REDACTED] suffered from stress and emotional hardship due to the loss of her first child during pregnancy and her husband's immigration status, without more detailed information, the AAO cannot conclude that this emotional hardship rises to the level of extreme hardship based on the record. There are no letters from a psychologist or other mental health professional in the record and [REDACTED] does not claim she is undergoing or seeking counseling of any sort. There is no evidence she is taking any prescription medications or that she currently has any problems with her physical or mental health.

A review of the documentation in the record fails to establish the existence of extreme hardship to the applicant's spouse caused by the applicant's inadmissibility to the United States. Having found the applicant statutorily ineligible for relief, no purpose would be served in discussing whether he merits a waiver as a matter of discretion.

In proceedings for application for waiver of grounds of inadmissibility under section 212(a)(9)(B)(v) of the Act, the burden of proving eligibility remains entirely with the applicant. *See* Section 291 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1361. Here, the applicant has not met that burden. Accordingly, the appeal will be dismissed.

ORDER: The appeal is dismissed.