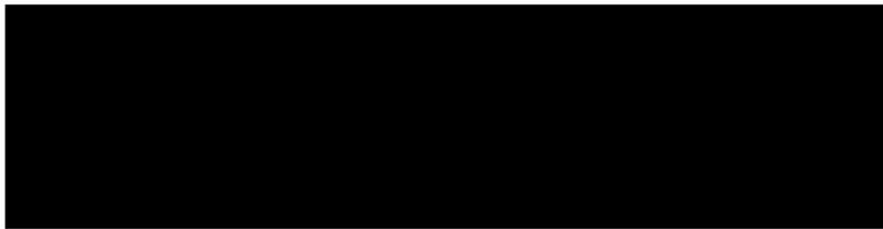


identifying data deleted to  
prevent clearly unwarranted  
invasion of personal privacy  
**PUBLIC COPY**

**U.S. Department of Homeland Security**  
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services  
Administrative Appeals Office (AAO)  
20 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., MS 2090  
Washington, DC 20529-2090



**U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services**



B2

DATE: **APR 19 2012** Office: NEBRASKA SERVICE CENTER FILE:

IN RE: Petitioner:   
Beneficiary:

PETITION: Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker as an Alien of Extraordinary Ability Pursuant to  
Section 203(b)(1)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1153(b)(1)(A)

ON BEHALF OF PETITIONER:

**INSTRUCTIONS:**  
  
This is the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office in your case. Please note that all documents  
have been returned to the office that originally decided your case. Please also note that any further  
inquiry 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, Nebraska Service Center, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be rejected as untimely filed.

In order to properly file an appeal, the regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(i) provides that the affected party or the attorney or representative of record must submit the complete appeal within 30 days of service of the unfavorable decision. If the decision was mailed, the appeal must be filed within 33 days. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 103.8(b). The regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 1.1(h) explains that when the last day of a period falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the period shall run until the end of the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday. The date of filing is not the date of submission, but the date of actual receipt with the proper signature and the required fee. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 103.2(a)(7)(i). The regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(B)(1) provides that an appeal which is not filed with the time allowed must be rejected as improperly filed.

The record indicates that the service center director issued the decision on October 18, 2010. It is noted that the service center director properly gave notice to the petitioner that it had 33 days to file the appeal. Neither the Act nor the pertinent regulations grant the AAO authority to extend this time limit. *See Matter of Liadov*, 23 I&N Dec. 990 (BIA 2006). Even if the appeal was delayed by the overnight delivery service, the error would not warrant special consideration of the appeal. *Id.*

The petitioner attempted to file the appeal on November 16, 2010 and December 10, 2010, but the appeal was not accepted by the service center initially because it had not been properly signed and subsequently because it did not include the correct filing fee. Appeals that are not properly signed or that are submitted with the wrong fee do not retain a filing date. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 103.2(a)(7)(i).

Although the petitioner dated the Form I-290B November 12, 2010, it was not received by the service center with the proper signature and the correct fee until December 27, 2010, or 70 days after the decision was issued. Accordingly, the appeal was untimely filed.

The regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(B)(2) states that, if an untimely appeal meets the requirements of a motion to reopen or a motion to reconsider, the appeal must be treated as a motion, and a decision must be made on the merits of the case. The official having jurisdiction over a motion is the official who made the last decision in the proceeding, in this case the Director of the Nebraska Service Center. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(1)(ii). The director determined that the late appeal did not meet the requirements of a motion and forwarded the matter to the AAO.

As the appeal was untimely filed, the appeal must be rejected.

**ORDER:** The appeal is rejected.