

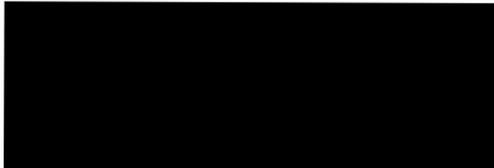


U.S. Citizenship
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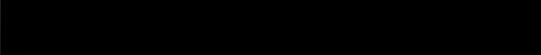
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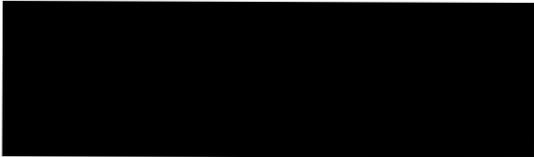
Office: VERMONT SERVICE CENTER

Date: **AUG 21 2007**

IN RE: Petitioner: 
 Beneficiary: 

PETITION: Immigrant petition for Alien Worker as an Other, Unskilled Worker pursuant to section 203(b)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1153(b)(3)

ON BEHALF OF PETITIONER:



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.

Robert P. Wiemann, Chief
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The employment-based preference visa petition was initially approved by the Director, Vermont Service Center under section 203(b)(3)(A)(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act. The director subsequently served the petitioner with notice of intent to revoke the approval of the petition (NOIR) because the position does not require two or more years of experience and [REDACTED] or his firm, was the attorney of record in this visa petition proceeding. In a Notice of Revocation (NOR), the director ultimately revoked the approval of the Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker (Form I-140). The matter is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be rejected as untimely filed. The AAO will return the matter to the director for consideration as a motion to reopen.

Section 205 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1155, provides that “[t]he Attorney General [now Secretary, Department of Homeland Security], may, at any time, for what he deems to be good and sufficient cause, revoke the approval of any petition approved by him under section 204.” The realization by the director that the petition was approved in error may be good and sufficient cause for revoking the approval. *Matter of Ho*, 19 I&N Dec. 582, 590 (BIA 1988).

8 C.F.R. § 205.2(d) states in pertinent part: “[t]he petitioner or self-petitioner may appeal the decision to revoke the approval within 15 days after the service of notice of the revocation.” 8 C.F.R. § 103.5a(b) provides an additional three (3) days if the decision was mailed.

The record indicates that the director issued the NOR on April 12, 2006. It is noted that the director properly gave notice to the petitioner that it had 18 days from the date of the decision to file the appeal. Counsel for the petitioner dated the appeal May 5, 2006, and the appeal was received by Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) on May 8, 2006, 26 days after the decision was issued. Accordingly, the appeal was untimely filed. The director erroneously annotated the appeal as timely and forwarded the matter to the AAO.

Neither the Act nor the pertinent regulations grant the AAO authority to extend the 18-day time limit for filing an appeal. As the appeal was untimely filed, the appeal must be rejected. Nevertheless, 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.

A motion to reopen must state the new facts to be proved in the reopened proceeding and be supported by affidavits or other documentary evidence. 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(2). A motion to reconsider must state the reasons for reconsideration and be supported by any pertinent precedent decisions to establish that the decision was based on an incorrect application of law or Service policy. A motion to reconsider a decision on an application or petition must, when filed, also establish that the decision was incorrect based on the evidence of record at the time of the initial decision. 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(3). A motion that does not meet applicable requirements shall be dismissed. 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(4).

Here, the untimely appeal meets the requirements of a motion to reopen. The official having jurisdiction over a motion is the official who made the last decision in the proceeding, in this case the service center director.

¹ On April 14, 2005, after a jury trial in the United States District Court for the District of Maryland, Northern Division, [REDACTED] was convicted on multiple counts of immigrant fraud. [REDACTED] was convicted of various counts regarding the falsifying of Labor Certification applications and conspiracy to submit false Labor Certifications.

See 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(1)(ii). Therefore, the director must consider the untimely appeal as a motion to reopen and render a new decision accordingly.

ORDER: The appeal is rejected. The matter is returned to the director for consideration as a motion to reopen.