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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
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FILE: [REDACTED] Office: VERMONT SERVICE CENTER
EAC 03 119 51321

Date: MAR 24 2009

IN RE: Petitioner: [REDACTED]

PETITION: Petition for Immigrant Abused Spouse Pursuant to Section 204(a)(1)(A)(iii) of the
Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1154(a)(1)(A)(iii)

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.

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, as required by 8 C.F.R. 103.5(a)(1)(i).

John F. Grissom
Acting Chief, Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The Director, Vermont Service Center, revoked approval of the immigrant visa petition. The matter is now before the Administration Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be summarily dismissed. The petition will be denied.

The petitioner seeks immigrant classification pursuant to section 204(a)(1)(A)(iii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (“the Act”), 8 U.S.C. § 1154(a)(1)(A)(iii), as an alien battered or subjected to extreme cruelty by a United States citizen.

Section 204(a)(1)(A)(iii) of the Act provides that an alien who is the spouse of a United States citizen may self-petition for immigrant classification if the alien demonstrates that he or she entered into the marriage with the United States citizen in good faith and that during the marriage, the alien or a child of the alien was battered or subjected to extreme cruelty perpetrated by the alien’s spouse. In addition, the alien must show that he or she is eligible to be classified as an immediate relative under section 201(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Act, resided with the abusive spouse, and is a person of good moral character. Section 204(a)(1)(A)(iii)(II) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1154(a)(1)(A)(iii)(II).

The director revoked approval of the petition, after determining that the applicant had made false statements under oath. The director found that the petitioner had not submitted sufficient credible evidence to establish that she was subjected to abuse perpetrated by her United States citizen spouse, had not submitted sufficient credible evidence to establish that she had resided with her United States citizen spouse, and had not established her good faith in entering the marriage.

The regulation at 8 C.F.R. §103.3(a)(1)(v) states, in pertinent part: “An officer to whom an appeal is taken shall summarily dismiss any appeal when the party concerned fails to identify specifically any erroneous conclusion of law or statement of fact for the appeal.”

The petitioner timely submits a Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal. Counsel for the petitioner asserts that United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) erred when determining the evidence submitted was insufficient. Although counsel indicates that a brief and/or evidence would be submitted within 30 days, the record does not contain a subsequent submission. On January 16, 2009, the AAO sent a facsimile to counsel of record requesting a copy of any evidence or argument sent to the AAO. Counsel did not provide a response. As the record does not include further evidence or argument on appeal, the record is considered complete.

Counsel does not identify specifically any erroneous conclusions of law or statements of fact made by the director as a basis for the appeal. The assertions of counsel without documentary evidence to support the claim, will not satisfy the petitioner’s burden of proof. The unsupported assertions of counsel do not constitute evidence. *Matter of Obaigbena*, 19 I&N Dec. 533, 534 (BIA 1988); *Matter of Laureano*, 19 I&N Dec. 1 (BIA 1983); *Matter of Ramirez-Sanchez*, 17 I&N Dec. 503, 506 (BIA 1980). The AAO is without further evidence or argument to evaluate regarding the petitioner’s failure to establish essential elements of eligibility for this benefit. The petitioner’s failure to specifically address the director’s findings and present evidence and argument identifying the

director's erroneous conclusions of law or statements of fact mandate the summary dismissal of the appeal.

Inasmuch as the petitioner has failed to identify specifically an erroneous conclusion of law or a statement of fact in this proceeding, the appeal must be summarily dismissed.

The petition will be denied for the stated reasons set out in the director's decision, with each considered as an independent and alternative basis for denial. In visa petition proceedings, the burden of proving eligibility for the benefit sought remains entirely with the petitioner. Section 291 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1361. Here, that burden has not been met.

ORDER: The appeal is summarily dismissed.