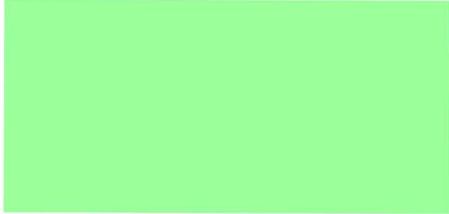




U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

(b)(6)



Date: **MAY 22 2014**

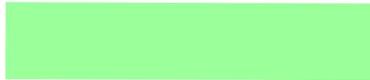
Office: VERMONT SERVICE CENTER

FILE:



IN RE:

Petitioner:



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:

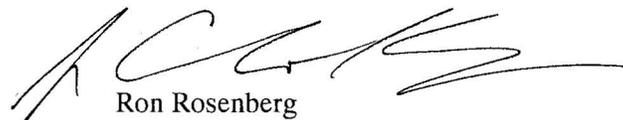
SELF-REPRESENTED

INSTRUCTIONS:

Enclosed please find the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) in your case.

This is a non-precedent decision. The AAO does not announce new constructions of law nor establish agency policy through non-precedent decisions. If you believe the AAO incorrectly applied current law or policy to your case or if you seek to present new facts for consideration, you may file a motion to reconsider or a motion to reopen, respectively. Any motion must be filed on a Notice of Appeal or Motion (Form I-290B) within 33 days of the date of this decision. **Please review the Form I-290B instructions at <http://www.uscis.gov/forms> for the latest information on fee, filing location, and other requirements.** See also 8 C.F.R. § 103.5. **Do not file a motion directly with the AAO.**

Thank you,



Ron Rosenberg
Chief, Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The Director, Vermont Service Center, (“the director”) denied the immigrant visa petition and the matter is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be summarily dismissed.

The petitioner seeks immigrant classification under 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. The director denied the petition for failure to establish that the petitioner has a qualifying relationship as the spouse of a U.S. citizen and is eligible for immigrant classification based on the qualifying relationship.

Section 204(a)(1)(A)(iii) of the Act provides, in pertinent part, 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 spouse 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).

An alien who has divorced an abusive United States citizen may still self-petition under this provision of the Act if the alien demonstrates “a connection between the legal termination of the marriage within the past 2 years and battering or extreme cruelty by the United States citizen spouse.” Section 204(a)(1)(A)(iii)(II)(aa)(CC)(ccc) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1154(a)(1)(A)(iii)(II)(aa)(CC)(ccc).

On appeal, the petitioner briefly asserts that he seeks to “recapture the old priority date” from his previous Form I-360 petition. The petitioner, however, fails to cite to law or U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) policy to support his assertion. Nor does he identify any erroneous conclusion of law or statement of fact in the director’s decision. Section 204(a)(1)(A)(iii)(II)(aa)(CC)(ccc) of the Act clearly provides that to remain eligible for classification despite no longer being married to a United States citizen, an alien must have been the bona fide spouse of a United States citizen “within the past two years” of filing the petition and demonstrate a connection between the abuse and the legal termination of the marriage.. The petitioner in this matter divorced his spouse on August 20, 2010, which was more than two years at the time of filing the instant Form I-360 petition on May 29, 2013.

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. 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(1)(v). As the petitioner has not identified any specific, erroneous conclusion of law or statement of fact in the director’s decision, the appeal must be summarily dismissed in accordance with 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(1)(v).

In visa petition proceedings, it is the petitioner's burden to establish eligibility for the immigration benefit sought. Section 291 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1361; *Matter of Otiende*, 26 I&N Dec. 127, 128 (BIA 2013). Here, that burden has not been met.

ORDER: The appeal is summarily dismissed.