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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

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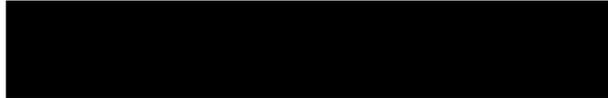
Date: **MAY 04 2012**

Office: VERMONT SERVICE CENTER

FILE: 

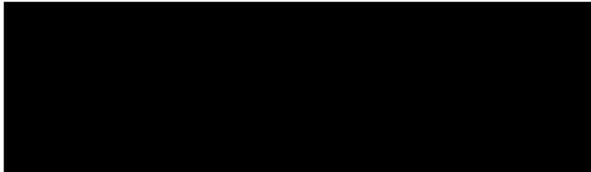
IN RE:

Petitioner:
Beneficiary:



PETITION: Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker Pursuant to Section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b)

ON BEHALF OF PETITIONER IN THE FORM I-129 PROCEEDING:



INSTRUCTIONS:

Enclosed please find the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office in your case. All of the documents related to this matter have been returned to the office that originally decided your case. Please be advised that any further inquiry that you might have concerning your case must be made to that office.

If you believe the law was inappropriately applied by us in reaching our decision, or you have additional information that you wish to have considered, you may file a motion to reconsider or a motion to reopen. The specific requirements for filing such a request can be found at 8 C.F.R. § 103.5. 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 \$630. Please be aware that 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(1)(i) requires that any motion must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reconsider or reopen.

Thank you,

Perry Rhew
Chief, Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The director of the Vermont Service denied the nonimmigrant visa petition, and the matter is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be rejected.

The petitioner, a daycare and learning center, seeks to employ the beneficiary as a preschool teacher. Accordingly, the petitioner endeavors to classify the beneficiary as a nonimmigrant in a specialty occupation pursuant to section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b). The director denied the petition, finding that the position was not a specialty occupation, and also noted that the beneficiary had not been maintaining valid H-1B status.

Effective March 4, 2010, the regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 292.4(a) requires that a “new [Form G-28] must be filed with an appeal filed with the [AAO].” Title 8 C.F.R. § 292.4(a) further requires that the Form G-28 “must be properly completed and signed by the petitioner, applicant, or respondent to authorize representation in order for the appearance to be recognized by DHS.” Although counsel in this matter previously entered his appearance prior to the instant Form I-129’s adjudication on July 6, 2009, the record does not contain a new, properly executed Form G-28, Notice of Entry of Appearance as Attorney or Accredited Representative, personally signed by both counsel and by an authorized official of the petitioning entity for the Form I-290B filed with the AAO.

On February 29, 2012, the AAO sent a request for a new Form G-28 to counsel via facsimile transmission. Specifically, the AAO advised that without a new, valid, and fully executed Form G-28, signed by an official of the petitioning entity authorizing counsel to represent the petitioner, the AAO would not consider the appeal to have been properly filed. Pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(A)(2) and its subclauses, counsel was instructed to submit a duly executed Form G-28 by fax within five business days, and with the original to follow by mail and be received by this office within ten business days. Counsel was further advised that failure to respond to the AAO’s request within five business days may result in the rejection of the appeal. As of the date of this decision, no correspondence from counsel has been received.

Absent a new and properly executed Form G-28, counsel cannot be considered the petitioner’s attorney of record with regard to the appeal currently before the AAO. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services regulations specifically prohibit the filing of an appeal by an attorney or representative without a properly executed Form G-28 entitling that person to file the appeal. 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(A)(2)(i).

An appeal filed by a person or entity not entitled to file it must be rejected as improperly filed. 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(A)(I). As counsel is not a recognized party in the Form I-290B proceeding, counsel is not authorized to file an appeal. *Id.*; 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(1)(iii)(B).

As the appeal was not properly filed, it will be rejected. 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(A)(I).

ORDER: The appeal is dismissed. The petition is denied.