



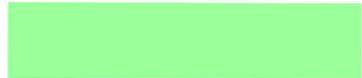
U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

(b)(6)



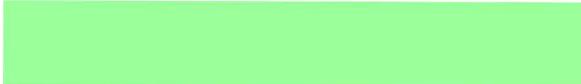
Date: APR 01 2014

Office: CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER



IN RE:

Petitioner:



Beneficiary:

PETITION:

Petition for Alien Fiancé(e) Pursuant to § 101(a)(15)(K) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(K)

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.

Thank you,

Ron Rosenberg
Chief, Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The Director, California Service Center (the director), denied the nonimmigrant visa petition, and the matter is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be sustained. The petition will be approved.

The petitioner is a citizen of the United States who seeks to classify the beneficiary, a native and citizen of the Philippines, as the fiancée of a United States citizen pursuant to section 101(a)(15)(K) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(K). The director denied the nonimmigrant visa petition pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 103.2(b)(8)(ii) because the petitioner failed to submit a Biographic Information sheet, Form G-325A, for the beneficiary.

Applicable Law

A "fiancé(e)" is defined at Section 101(a)(15)(K) of the Act as:

subject to subsections (d) and (p) of section 214, an alien who -

(i) is the fiancée or fiancé of a citizen of the United States . . . and who seeks to enter the United States solely to conclude a valid marriage with the petitioner within ninety days after admission[.]

Section 214(d)(1) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1184(d)(1), states in pertinent part that a fiancé(e) petition:

shall be approved only after satisfactory evidence is submitted by the petitioner to establish that the parties have previously met in person within 2 years before the date of filing the petition, have a bona fide intention to marry, and are legally able and actually willing to conclude a valid marriage in the United States within a period of ninety days after the alien's arrival, except that the Secretary of Homeland Security in [her] discretion may waive the requirement that the parties have previously met in person. . . .

The statutory requirement of an in-person meeting between the petitioner and the beneficiary is further explained at 8 C.F.R. § 214.2(k)(2), which states, in pertinent part:

The petitioner shall establish to the satisfaction of the director that the petitioner and K-1 beneficiary have met in person within the two years immediately preceding the filing of the petition. As a matter of discretion, the director may exempt the petitioner from this requirement only if it is established that compliance would result in extreme hardship to the petitioner

The regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 103.2(b)(8)(ii) states that if all required initial evidence is not submitted with the petition or does not demonstrate eligibility, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) may, in its discretion, deny the petition for lack of initial evidence. The specific requirements for filing a Petition for Alien Fiancé(e) (Form I-129F), including a description of the required initial evidence, may be found in the *Instructions* to the Form I-129F.

Factual and Procedural History

The petitioner filed the fiancé(e) petition with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services on April 17, 2013. The petitioner and the beneficiary were required to have met in person between April 17, 2011 and April 17, 2013. The director denied the nonimmigrant visa petition because the petitioner failed to submit a Form G-325 for the beneficiary.

The record contains: a Form G-325 for the beneficiary and the petitioner, evidence of the petitioner's U.S. citizenship; a copy of the petitioner's U.S. passport page that shows a Philippine entry stamp dated March 3, 2013 and a Philippine departure stamp dated March 15, 2013; income tax records; travel receipts; airline boarding passes and an itinerary for travel to the Philippines in March 2013; photographs of the petitioner and the beneficiary together; correspondence between the petitioner and the beneficiary; original statements from the petitioner and the beneficiary of their intent to marry in the United States within 90 days of the beneficiary's admission into the United States in K-1 status; and the death certificate of the petitioner's first wife.

On appeal, the petitioner submitted a Biographic Information (Form G-325) for the beneficiary.

Analysis

The relevant evidence demonstrates that the petitioner is a U.S. citizen, the petitioner met the beneficiary in person during the two-year period immediately preceding the filing of the petition, the petitioner and beneficiary have a bona fide intention to marry, and are legally able to conclude a valid marriage in the United States within 90 days of the beneficiary's arrival in the United States in K-1 status.

The burden of proof in these proceedings rests solely with the petitioner. Section 291 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1361. The petitioner has met that burden.

ORDER: The appeal is sustained. The petition is approved.