U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Office of Administrative Appeals
20 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., MS 2090
Washington, DC 20529-2090

(b)(6)

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Date: MAR 13 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 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 Canada, as the fiancé of a United States citizen pursuant to § 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 any initial evidence or supporting documentation.

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 USCIS on February 25, 2013. The petitioner and the beneficiary were required to have met in person between February 25, 2011 and February 25, 2013.

On appeal, the petitioner provides a copy of her certificate of birth in the United States; a final consent judgment of divorce, filed March 16, 2011, for the petitioner's first marriage; a Form G-325A, Biographic Information, for the petitioner and the beneficiary; two (2) passport-style color photographs of the petitioner and the beneficiary; dated photographs of the beneficiary and the petitioner together; receipts showing that the petitioner visited Canada during the requisite two-year period; and original statements from the petitioner and the beneficiary to establish their mutual intent to marry within 90 days of the beneficiary's admission into the United States in K-1 status.

Analysis

The relevant evidence reflects 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 the beneficiary have a mutual intent to marry, and are legally able and willing to conclude a valid marriage in the United States within a period of ninety days after the beneficiary's arrival in the United States.

Conclusion

Now that the petitioner has met all of the Form I-129F evidentiary requirements, the appeal will be sustained and the petition will be approved. In visa petition proceedings, it is the petitioner's burden to establish eligibility for the immigration benefit sought. Section 214(d)(1) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1184(d)(1); *Matter of Otiende*, 26 I&N Dec. 127, 128 (BIA 2013). Here, that burden has been met.

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