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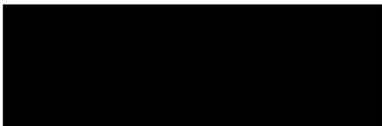
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U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Administrative Appeals Office (AAO)
20 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., MS 2090
Washington, DC 20529-2090



**U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services**

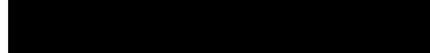
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DATE: **APR 02 2012**

Office: VERMONT SERVICE CENTER

FILE: 

IN RE: Petitioner: 
 Beneficiary: 

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

ON BEHALF OF PETITIONER:



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, Vermont Service Center, denied the nonimmigrant visa petition. The matter is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The AAO will summarily dismiss the appeal.

The petitioner filed this nonimmigrant petition seeking to classify the beneficiary as an L-1A nonimmigrant intracompany transferee pursuant to section 101(a)(15)(L) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(L). The petitioner, a Texas corporation established in 2009, states that it is engaged in the manufacturing and stamping of metal parts. It claims to be an affiliate of [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] The petitioner seeks to employ the beneficiary as the chief of operations for its new office in the United States for a period of one year.

The director denied the petition on October 15, 2010, concluding that the petitioner failed to establish: (1) that the beneficiary would be employed in a qualifying managerial or executive capacity within one year of approval of the petition; and (2) that the U.S. company has secured sufficient physical premises to house the new office. In denying the petition, the director observed that the petitioner submitted an incomplete response to a request for additional evidence issued on June 10, 2010.

The petitioner filed a timely appeal on November 17, 2010. The director declined to treat the appeal as a motion and forwarded the appeal to the AAO for review. On the Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal or Motion, counsel provides the following statement as the basis for the appeal:

The Service Center Director erred in his decision. We will demonstrate in a form of a brief and with additional evidence that the applicant qualifies under "new office." We will submit documents to show that [the petitioner] is actively pursuing new business and not just mere presence of the applicant. The Service Center Director is not considering provisions of L-1 under the NAFTA Agreement.

Counsel indicated that he would submit a brief and/or evidence to the AAO within 30 days of filing the appeal. As of this date, the AAO has not received counsel's brief or any additional evidence in support of the appeal, and the record will be considered completed.

To establish eligibility for the L-1 nonimmigrant visa classification, the petitioner must meet the criteria outlined in section 101(a)(15)(L) of the Act. Specifically, a qualifying organization must have employed the beneficiary in a qualifying managerial or executive capacity, or in a specialized knowledge capacity, for one continuous year within three years preceding the beneficiary's application for admission into the United States. In addition, the beneficiary must seek to enter the United States temporarily to continue rendering his or her services to the same employer or a subsidiary or affiliate thereof in a managerial, executive, or specialized knowledge capacity.

Regulations at 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(1)(v) state, 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.

Upon review, the AAO concurs with the director's decision and affirms the denial of the petition. Counsel's brief statement on the Form I-290B does not identify specifically an erroneous conclusion of law or statement

of fact on the part of the director as a basis for the appeal. Counsel's general objections to the denial of the petition, without specifically identifying any errors on the part of the director or even acknowledging the director's specific adverse findings, are simply insufficient to overcome the well-founded and logical conclusions the director reached based on the evidence submitted by the petitioner. The 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). Going on record without supporting documentary evidence is not sufficient for purposes of meeting the burden of proof in these proceedings.

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. Inasmuch as the petitioner has not identified specifically an erroneous conclusion of law or statement of fact in support of the appeal, the appeal must be summarily dismissed.

ORDER: The appeal is summarily dismissed.