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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

PUBLIC COPY



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

[Redacted]

157

Date: **MAY 01 2012** Office: VERMONT SERVICE CENTER

[Redacted]

IN RE: [Redacted]

PETITION: [Redacted]

ON BEHALF OF PETITIONER: SELF-REPRESENTED

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 nonimmigrant visa petition was denied by the Director, Vermont Service Center. It then came before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. On February 17, 2012, this office provided the petitioner with notice of adverse information in the record and afforded the petitioner an opportunity to provide evidence that might overcome this information.

The petitioner claims to be a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Texas. It seeks to employ the beneficiary as its “Executive/President/CEO.” Accordingly, the petitioner endeavors to classify the beneficiary as a nonimmigrant alien pursuant to section 101(a)(15)(L) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(L).

Pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 103.2(b)(16)(i), this office notified the petitioner on February 17, 2012 that, according to the records at the State of Texas corporations website, the petitioner is currently dissolved. *See Westlaw, Corporate Records & Business Registrations TX800831372* (accessed February 9, 2012).

This office also notified the petitioner that if it is currently dissolved, this fact is material to its eligibility for the requested visa. Specifically, the petitioner’s dissolution raises serious questions about whether it continues to exist as an importing employer, whether the petitioner maintains a qualifying relationship, and whether it is authorized to conduct business in a regular and systematic manner. *See* section 214(c)(1) of the Act; *see also* 8 C.F.R. §§ 214.2(l)(1)(ii)(G) and (l)(3).

Moreover, any such concealment of the true status of the organization by the petitioner seriously compromises the credibility of the remaining evidence in the record. *See Matter of Ho*, 19 I&N Dec. 582, 586 (BIA 1988). It is incumbent upon the petitioner to resolve any inconsistencies in the record by independent objective evidence, and attempts to explain or reconcile such inconsistencies, absent competent objective evidence pointing to where the truth, in fact, lies, will not suffice. *Id.*

This office allowed the petitioner 30 days in which to provide evidence to rebut the finding that the petitioner has been dissolved. More than 30 days have passed and the petitioner has failed to respond to this office's request for a certificate of good standing or other proof that the petitioner remains in operation as a viable business. Thus, the appeal will be dismissed as abandoned.¹

The AAO conducts appellate review on a *de novo* basis. *See Soltane v. DOJ*, 381 F.3d 143, 145 (3d Cir. 2004). 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 not met that burden.

ORDER: The appeal is dismissed as moot.

¹ Even if the appeal could be otherwise sustained, the petition’s approval would be subject to revocation pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 214.2(l)(9)(iii) upon dissolution of the corporate entity.