

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

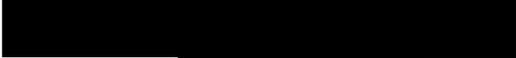


D7

Date: **OCT 09 2012**

Office: CALIFORNIA 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 AAO inappropriately applied the law in reaching its decision, or you have additional information that you wish to have considered, you may file a motion to reconsider or a motion to reopen in accordance with the instructions on Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal or Motion, with a fee of \$630. The specific requirements for filing such a motion can be found at 8 C.F.R. § 103.5. **Do not file any motion directly with the AAO.** Please be aware that 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(1)(i) requires any motion to 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, California Service Center, denied the nonimmigrant visa petition. The matter then came before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. On July 23, 2012, this office provided the petitioner with notice of derogatory 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 California. It seeks to employ the beneficiary in the position of president. Accordingly the petitioner endeavors to classify the beneficiary as an 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 director denied the petition based on a finding that the petitioner failed to establish that it would employ the beneficiary in a qualifying managerial or executive position under the extended petition. The petitioner filed a timely appeal.

The AAO conducts appellate review on a *de novo* basis. *See Soltane v. DOJ*, 381 F.3d 143, 145 (3d Cir. 2004). Pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 103.2(b)(16)(i), this office notified the petitioner on July 23, 2012 that, according to the AAO's search of State of California corporate records and business registrations, the petitioner's corporate status is "dissolved." *See Website of California Secretary of State, Business Search* (accessed on July 18, 2012).

This office also notified the petitioner that if its corporate status is currently dissolved, this fact is material to its eligibility for the requested nonimmigrant classification. 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).

This office mailed the notice of derogatory information to the petitioner's and counsel's addresses of record and allowed the petitioner 30 days in which to provide evidence to rebut the finding that the petitioner's corporate status 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 moot.¹

In order to employ the beneficiary as an intracompany transferee, the petitioner must be a United States legal entity that is the same employer as the firm, corporation, or other legal entity that employed the beneficiary abroad or the U.S. petitioner must be a subsidiary or affiliate of that foreign entity, and it must be doing business as defined at 8 C.F.R. § 214.2(l)(1)(ii)(H). Given that the petitioner's corporate status is shown as

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. Accordingly, the AAO finds that the dissolution of the petitioner deprives this appeal of any practical significance. Considerations of prudence warrant the dismissal of the appeal as moot. *See Matter of Luis*, 22 I & N Dec. 747, 753 (BIA 1999).

dissolved, the AAO finds that the petitioner is no longer a legal entity that is qualified to file a nonimmigrant petition in the beneficiary's behalf.

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.