

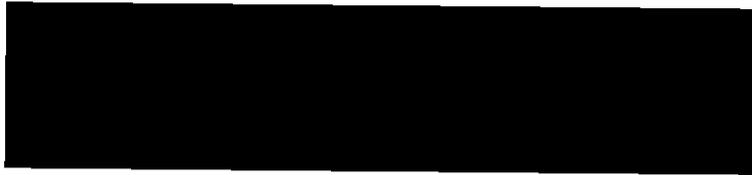
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U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services  
Administrative Appeals Office (AAO)  
20 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., MS 2090  
Washington, DC 20529-2090



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



E<sub>2</sub>

DATE: APR 07 2011

Office: [REDACTED]

FILE: [REDACTED]

IN RE: Applicant: [REDACTED]

APPLICATION: Application for Certificate of Citizenship under Former Section 321 of the Immigration and Nationality Act; 8 U.S.C. § 1432 (1982).

ON BEHALF OF APPLICANT:

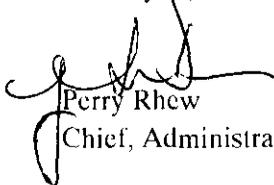
SELF-REPRESENTED

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 application was denied by the Field Office Director, [REDACTED] and the matter is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be rejected as untimely filed.

In order to properly file an appeal, the regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(i) provides that the affected party must file the complete appeal within 30 days after service of the unfavorable decision. If the decision was mailed, the appeal must be filed within 33 days. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 103.5a(b). The date of filing is not the date of mailing, but the date of actual receipt. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 103.2(a)(7)(i).

The record indicates that the director issued the decision on August 27, 2010, and properly gave notice to the applicant that he had 33 days to file the appeal. The Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal, was signed by the applicant and received by the [REDACTED] Field Office on or about March 1, 2011, more than 33 days after the decision was issued. Accordingly, the appeal was untimely filed and must be rejected.<sup>1</sup>

**ORDER:** The appeal is rejected.

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<sup>1</sup> Neither the Immigration and Nationality Act nor the regulations grant the AAO authority to extend the 33-day time limit for filing an appeal. The application was denied, in part, because the applicant was over the age of 18 years when he obtained lawful permanent residence and therefore could not derive U.S. citizenship under former section 321 of the Act. The appeal is not accompanied by any evidence or argument overcoming the applicant's statutory disqualification or otherwise indicating that he is eligible for U.S. citizenship under this or any other provision of the Act. The appeal therefore does not meet the requirements of a motion to reopen or reconsider under the regulations at 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(2) and (3) and therefore need not be treated as such. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(B)(2).