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



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

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FILE:

Office: BLOOMINGTON, MINNESOTA

Date: JUL 17 2009

IN RE:

Petitioner:
Beneficiary:

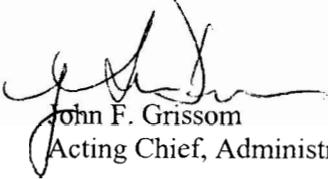
PETITION: Petition to Classify Orphan as an Immediate Relative Pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 204.3

ON BEHALF OF PETITIONER:

INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office in your case. All documents have been returned to the office that originally decided your case. Any further inquiry must be made to that office.

If you believe the law was inappropriately applied or you have additional information that you wish to have considered, you may file a motion to reconsider or a motion to reopen. Please refer to 8 C.F.R. § 103.5 for the specific requirements. 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 \$585. Any motion must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reconsider or reopen, as required by 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(1)(i).


John F. Grissom
Acting Chief, Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The field office director initially approved the Form I-600, Petition to Classify Orphan as an Immediate Relative. However, upon receipt of a recommendation to revoke approval of the petition from the United States Consulate in Lagos, Nigeria, the field office director issued a notice of intent to revoke, and ultimately revoked, approval of the petition. The matter is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be rejected as untimely filed.

The regulation requires that an appeal from the revocation of the approval of a petition must be filed within 15 days after the service of the notice of revocation. 8 C.F.R. § 205.2(d). If the notice was mailed, the appeal must be filed within 18 days. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 103.5a(b).

The record in this case indicates that the director issued the revocation decision on July 22, 2008. The director improperly gave notice to the petitioner that an appeal could be filed within 33 days of the revocation decision. The director's improper notice of the allowed time does not extend the regulatory requirement that the appeal of a revocation decision issued by mail must be filed within 18 days. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) received the petitioner's Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal, on August 25, 2008, which was 34 days after the director's decision was issued. The appeal was thus untimely filed.

The regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(B)(2) states that if an untimely appeal meets the requirements of a motion to reopen or a motion to reconsider, the appeal must be treated as a motion and a decision must be made on the merits of the case. The official having jurisdiction over a motion is the official who made the last decision in the proceeding, in this case the district director. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(1)(ii). The director declined to treat the late appeal as a motion and forwarded the matter to the AAO.

The appeal was untimely filed and consequently must be rejected.

ORDER: The appeal is rejected.