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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: CIUDAD JUAREZ

Date:

**OCT 09 2009**

IN RE:

APPLICATION: Application for Waiver of Grounds of Inadmissibility under sections 212(a)(9)(B)(v)  
of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. §§ 1182(a)(9)(B)(v)

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.

Perry Rhew  
Chief, Administrative Appeals Office

**DISCUSSION:** The waiver application was denied by the Officer in Charge, Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed, the previous decision of the officer in charge will be withdrawn, and the application declared moot.

The applicant is a native and citizen of Mexico who entered the United States in March 2005 without inspection and returned to Mexico voluntarily in December 2005. She was found to be inadmissible to the United States pursuant to section 212(a)(9)(B)(i)(I) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(9)(B)(i)(I), for having been unlawfully present in the United States for more than 180 days but less than one year. The applicant is the spouse of a U.S. Citizen and the beneficiary of an approved Petition for Alien Relative and seeks a waiver of inadmissibility in order to return to the United States and reside with her husband.

The officer in charge found that the applicant had failed to establish that extreme hardship would be imposed on a qualifying relative and denied the Application for Waiver of Grounds of Inadmissibility (Form I-601) accordingly. *Decision of the Officer in Charge* dated February 16, 2007.

On appeal, counsel asserts that U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) erred in failing to consider all of the relevant factor in determining whether the applicant had established extreme hardship to her U.S. Citizen spouse. *Brief in Support of Appeal* at 3-8. Counsel further asserts that the decision violates the rights of the applicant's husband under the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment of the U.S. constitution by preventing him from marrying and having a family. *Brief* at 5. In support of the appeal, counsel submitted a declaration from the applicant's husband, copies of birth certificates for the applicant's stepsons, and information on conditions in Mexico. The entire record was reviewed and considered in rendering a decision on the appeal.

Section 212(a)(9)(B) of the Act provides, in pertinent part:

(B) Aliens Unlawfully Present.-

(i) In general. - Any alien (other than an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence) who-

(I) was unlawfully present in the United States for a period of more than 180 days but less than 1 year, voluntarily departed the United States . . . prior to the commencement of proceedings under section 235(b)(1) or section 240, and again seeks admission within 3 years of the date of such alien's departure or removal, . . . is inadmissible.

(II) Has been unlawfully present in the United States for one year or more, and who again seeks admission within 10 years of the date of such alien's departure or removal from the United States, is inadmissible.

....

(v) Waiver. – The Attorney General [Secretary] has sole discretion to waive clause (i) in the case of an immigrant who is the spouse or son or daughter of a United States citizen or of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence, if it is established to the satisfaction of the Attorney General [Secretary] that the refusal of admission to such immigrant alien would result in extreme hardship to the citizen or lawfully resident spouse or parent of such alien.

In the present case, the record indicates that the applicant entered the United States without inspection in March 2005 and returned to Mexico in December 2005. The applicant was found to be inadmissible under section 212(a)(9)(B)(i)(I) of the Act for being unlawfully present in the United States for a period of more than 180 days but less than one year. Pursuant to section 212(a)(9)(B)(i)(I) of the Act, the applicant was barred from again seeking admission within three years of the date of her departure from the United States in December 2005. It has now been more than three years since the departure that made the applicant inadmissible pursuant to section 212(a)(9)(B) of the Act, and the applicant is no longer inadmissible.

**ORDER:** The appeal is dismissed, the prior decision of the officer in charge is withdrawn, and the application for a waiver of inadmissibility is declared moot.