

Identifying data deleted to prevent clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy

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

PUBLIC COPY

Hy



FILE:



Office: HOUSTON, TX

Date:

FEB 25 2010

IN RE:



APPLICATION: Application for Permission to Reapply for Admission into the United States after Deportation or Removal under section 212(a)(9)(A)(iii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(9)(A)(iii)

ON BEHALF OF APPLICANT:



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, as required by 8 C.F.R. 103.5(a)(1)(i).

Perry Rhew
Chief, Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The Field Office Director, Houston, Texas denied the Application for Permission to Reapply for Admission into the United States after Deportation or Removal (Form I-212). 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 of 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 field office director issued the decision on March 2, 2009. It is noted that the field office director properly gave notice to the applicant that she had 30 days to file the appeal (33 days if mailed). The applicant incorrectly filed the appeal with the AAO on April 3, 2009. An appeal is not properly filed until the field office receives it. The AAO returned the appeal to the applicant and informed her that she had incorrectly filed the appeal with this office. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) received the appeal on April 9, 2009, or 38 days after the decision was issued. Accordingly, the appeal was untimely filed.

Neither the Immigration and Nationality Act nor the pertinent regulations grant the AAO or the field office director authority to extend the 33-day time limit for filing an appeal. As the appeal was untimely filed, the appeal must be rejected. Nevertheless, 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.

A motion to reopen must state the new facts to be proved in the reopened proceeding and be supported by affidavits or other documentary evidence. 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(2). A motion to reconsider must state the reasons for reconsideration and be supported by any pertinent precedent decisions to establish that the decision was based on an incorrect application of law or Service policy. A motion to reconsider a decision on an application or petition must, when filed, also establish that the decision was incorrect based on the evidence of record at the time of the initial decision. 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(3). A motion that does not meet applicable requirements shall be dismissed. 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(4).

Here, the untimely appeal does not meet the requirements of a motion to reopen or a motion to reconsider because counsel does not set forth any new facts or establish that the field office director's decision was based on an incorrect application of law or policy. The AAO notes that, while counsel asserts that the request for a waiver was supported by ample evidence documenting the applicant's extensive family ties and erred in further penalizing the applicant for failing to depart voluntarily, the record reflects that the applicant is ineligible for permission to reapply for admission under section 212(a)(9)(C)(ii) of the Act and will be required to establish that she is applying from outside the United States and has remained outside the United States for a period of ten years prior to such application.¹ Therefore, there is no requirement to treat the appeal as a motion under 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(B)(2).

¹ The record reflects that, on April 30, 2008, the applicant filed an Application for Waiver of Grounds of Inadmissibility indicating that she resided in the United States. The record does not reflect that the applicant legally reentered the United

As the appeal was untimely filed and does not qualify as a motion, the appeal must be rejected.

ORDER: The appeal is rejected.