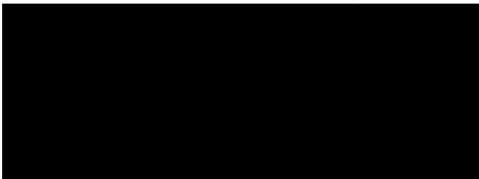




U.S. Department of Justice
Immigration and Naturalization Service

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OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS
425 Eye Street N.W.
ULLB, 3rd Floor
Washington, D.C. 20536



File: EAC-98-253-52161 Office: Vermont Service Center

Date:

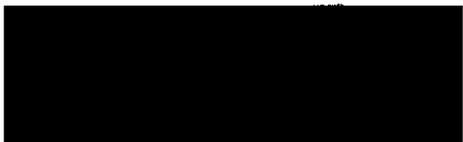
AUG 3 2000

IN RE: Petitioner:
Beneficiary:



Petition: Petition for Special Immigrant Religious Worker Pursuant to Section 203(b)(4) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. 1153(b)(4)

IN BEHALF OF PETITIONER:



Public Copy

Identifying data deleted to prevent clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy

INSTRUCTIONS:

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

If you believe the law was inappropriately applied or the analysis used in reaching the decision was inconsistent with the information provided or with precedent decisions, you may file a motion to reconsider. Such a motion must state the reasons for reconsideration and be supported by any pertinent precedent decisions. Any motion to reconsider must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reconsider, as required under 8 C.F.R. 103.5(a)(1)(i).

If you have new or additional information which you wish to have considered, you may file a motion to reopen. Such a motion must state the new facts to be proved at the reopened proceeding and be supported by affidavits or other documentary evidence. Any motion to reopen must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reopen, except that failure to file before this period expires may be excused in the discretion of the Service where it is demonstrated that the delay was reasonable and beyond the control of the applicant or petitioner. Id.

Any motion must be filed with the office which originally decided your case along with a fee of \$110 as required under 8 C.F.R. 103.7.

FOR THE ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER,
EXAMINATIONS

Terrance H. Kelly
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The immigrant visa petition was denied by the Director, Vermont Service Center. The Associate Commissioner for Examinations dismissed an appeal from the decision. The matter is now before the Associate Commissioner on motion to reopen. The motion will be dismissed.

The petitioner is an organization that seeks classification of the beneficiary as a special immigrant religious worker pursuant to section 203(b)(4) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. 1153(b)(4), to serve as a priest.

The center director denied the petition in a decision dated June 17, 1999. The Associate Commissioner dismissed an appeal from that decision finding that the petitioner had failed to establish that it is a qualifying, non-profit religious organization.

On motion, the petitioner submitted evidence concerning its tax-exempt status.

8 C.F.R. 103.5(a)(1)(i) requires that any motion to reopen or reconsider must be filed by the petitioner within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reopen or reconsider.

The appeal was dismissed in a decision dated January 31, 2000. The Associate Commissioner received the motion on or about March 29, 2000. The Associate Commissioner's decision clearly advised the petitioner that any motion must be filed with the office which originally decided its case. The motion was properly filed at the Vermont Service Center on April 3, 2000. The respondent's motion was untimely filed and will be dismissed.

ORDER: The motion is dismissed.