U.S. Department of Justice

Immigration and Naturalization Service

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

[redacted]

NOV 27 2000

File: SRC 00 163 52397 Office: Texas Service Center Date:

IN RE: Petitioner: [redacted]
Beneficiary:

Petition: Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker Pursuant to Section 101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(b)

identifying data deleted to prevent clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy

IN BEHALF OF PETITIONER: [redacted]

Public Copy

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

Mary C. Mulrean, Acting Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The nonimmigrant visa petition was approved by the Director, Texas Service Center, who certified the decision to the Associate Commissioner for Examinations for review. The decision of the director will be affirmed.

The petitioner is a temporary employment service agency that provides resort staff to hotels and resorts on the Alabama Gulf Coast. It desires to employ the beneficiary as a housekeeping cleaner for a period of six and one-half months. The Department of Labor determined that a temporary labor certification by the Secretary of Labor could not be made because the employer had not established a temporary need. The director determined that the petitioner had established that the need for the services to be performed is temporary.

Section 101(a)(15)(H)(ii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(H)(ii), defines an H-2B temporary worker as:

> an alien...having a residence in a foreign country which he has no intention of abandoning, who is coming temporarily to the United States to perform other temporary service or labor if unemployed persons capable of performing such service or labor cannot be found in this country, but this clause shall not apply to graduates of medical schools coming to the United States to perform services as members of the medical profession....

Matter of Artee Corp., 18 I&N Dec. 366 (Comm. 1982), as codified in current regulations at 8 C.F.R. 214.2(h)(6)(ii), specified that the test for determining whether an alien is coming "temporarily" to the United States to "perform temporary services or labor" is whether the need of the petitioner for the duties to be performed is temporary. It is the nature of the need, not the nature of the duties, that is controlling. See 55 Fed. Reg. 2616 (1990).

As a general rule, the period of the petitioner's need must be a year or less, although there may be extraordinary circumstances where the temporary services or labor might last longer than one year. The petitioner's need for the services or labor must be a one-time occurrence, a seasonal need, a peakload need, or an intermittent need. 8 C.F.R. 214.2(h)(6)(ii)(B).

The petitioner currently employs 116 people. The petitioner seeks the services of the beneficiary in order to satisfy its contractual commitments with various hotels and resorts along the Alabama Gulf Coast. The beneficiary will be employed by the petitioner and paid a salary of $11,440 per year, notwithstanding that her services are to be rendered for a hotel or resort which contracts with the petitioner for her services. The nature of the need for the duties

to be performed is seasonal. The services or labor to be performed is traditionally tied to a certain time of the year.

In review, the evidence clearly establishes a break in the petitioner's need for the services to be performed as the petitioner seeks only to employ the nonimmigrant worker during the high tourist season. The petitioner is required to demonstrate that its intention is to employ the specific beneficiary for only a temporary period. Here, the petitioner has established that even though its business has a permanent need for workers, its intention to employ the beneficiary is seasonal and for only a temporary period. Matter of Ord, 18 I&N Dec. 285 (Reg. Comm. 1982). The seasonal nature of this employment renders it temporary.

The burden of proof in these proceedings rests solely with the petitioner. Section 291 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. 1361. Here, the petitioner has met that burden.

ORDER: The decision of the director is affirmed. The visa petition is approved.