



U.S. Department of Justice

Immigration and Naturalization Service

AA

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

[Redacted]

FILE:

[Redacted]

Date:

JAN 31 2000

IN RE: Applicant:

APPLICATION:

[Redacted]

IN BEHALF OF APPLICANT:

[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

  
Terrance M. O'Reilly, Director  
Administrative Appeals Office

Identifying data deleted to  
prevent clearly unwarranted  
invasion of personal privacy

**DISCUSSION:** The application was denied by the District Director, New York, New York, and is now before the Associate Commissioner for Examinations on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The applicant is a native of Ukraine and naturalized citizen of the United States. The applicant seeks to have her original Certificate of Naturalization, which was issued to her on February 5, 1963 corrected under § 338 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. 1449, to reflect a change of her date of birth from October 18, 1942 to October 18, 1939.

The district director reviewed the applicant's record and determined that applicant's request was not justifiable and denied the application accordingly.

On appeal, the applicant states that she was unable to get a copy of her birth certificate until after Ukraine gained its freedom from Communism. It was only then that she learned her true date of birth.

Section 343 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. 1454, provides the statutory authority regarding the replacement of a Certificate of Naturalization only if the original was lost, mutilated, or destroyed, or if the applicant's name is changed after naturalization by order of the court or by marriage. The regulations at 8 C.F.R. 343a.1, regarding the procedure and grounds for obtaining a replacement Certificate of Naturalization, are quite clear and are not discretionary.

Section 338 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. 1449, provides the statutory authority relating to the contents of a Certificate of Naturalization.

8 C.F.R. 338.5 contains the specific regulations regarding the execution and issuance of Certificates of Naturalization and provides, in part:

(a) Whenever a Certificate of Naturalization has been delivered which does not conform to the facts shown on the application for naturalization, or a clerical error was made in preparing the certificate, an application for issuance of a corrected certificate, Form N-565, without fee, may be filed by the naturalized person.

(e) The correction will not be deemed to be justified where the naturalized person later alleges that the name or date of birth which the applicant stated to be his or her correct name or date of birth at the time of naturalization was not in fact his or her own name or date of birth at the time of naturalization.

The earliest document contained in the applicant's record, dated November 21, 1949, reflects that the applicant's father stated that his daughter's date of birth was November 3, 1942. That date is contained on the applicant's application for an immigrant visa as a displaced person. In 1962 the applicant filed a Form I-90 to get a new Alien Registration Receipt Card and listed her date of birth

as October 18, 1942. She then listed her date of birth as October 18, 1942, on her Application to File Petition for Naturalization and on her Petition for Naturalization. A notation in the file indicates that the difference between the two birth dates resulted from the use of both the Julian and Gregorian calendars.

The information on the applicant's Certificate of Naturalization in the record conforms to the facts on her application for that document and the certificate does not contain any clerical errors. There are no provisions under §§ 338 or 343 of the Act to justify any corrections on the applicant's Certificate of Naturalization as requested using the present Form N-565 application.

8 C.F.R. 334.16(a) and (b) discuss the general procedures for amending a petition for naturalization during pendency of a petition or application and after final action on a petition or application. Whenever an application is made to the court to amend a petition for naturalization after final action thereon has been taken by the court, a copy of the application shall be served on the district director having administrative jurisdiction over the territory in which the court is located in the manner and within the time provided by the rules of the court in which application is made. When the court orders the petition amended, the clerk of the court shall transmit a copy of the order to the district director for inclusion in the Service file. See INTERP 334.1(1).

Although the applicant has provided documentation to support a request to have her date of birth amended on her Certificate of Naturalization, only the court has the authority to make this change. Therefore, the district director's decision will be affirmed, and the appeal will be dismissed.

This decision is without prejudice to the applicant submitting her request to a U.S. Federal District Court with jurisdiction in this matter in accordance with regulations at 8 C.F.R. 334.16.

**ORDER:** The appeal is dismissed.