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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

PUBLIC COPY

[redacted]

FILE: [redacted] Office: Miami Date: FEB 28 2003

IN RE: Applicant: [redacted]

APPLICATION: Application for Permanent Residence Pursuant to Section 1 of the Cuban Adjustment Act of November 2, 1966 (P.L. 89-732)

IN BEHALF OF APPLICANT: Self-represented

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.

Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The application was denied by the Acting District Director, Miami, Florida, who certified his decision to the Administrative Appeals Office for review. The acting district director's decision will be affirmed.

The applicant is a native and citizen of Venezuela who filed this application for adjustment of status to that of a lawful permanent resident under section 1 of the Cuban Adjustment Act of November 2, 1966. This Act provides, in pertinent part:

> [T]he status of any alien who is a native or citizen of Cuba and who has been inspected and admitted or paroled into the United States subsequent to January 1, 1959 and has been physically present in the United States for at least one year, may be adjusted by the Attorney General, in his discretion and under such regulations as he may prescribe, to that of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence if the alien makes an application for such adjustment, and the alien is eligible to receive an immigrant visa and is admissible to the United States for permanent residence. The provisions of this Act shall be applicable to the spouse and child of any alien described in this subsection, regardless of their citizenship and place of birth, who are residing with such alien in the United States.

The acting district director determined that the applicant no longer qualifies as the spouse of an alien described in section 1 of the Act of November 2, 1966. The acting district director, therefore, denied the application.

The applicant has provided no statement or additional evidence on notice of certification.

The record reflects that on February 8, 2002, at Coral Gables, Florida, the applicant married [redacted] a native and citizen of Cuba and a lawful permanent resident of the United States. Based on that marriage, on April 12, 2002, the applicant filed for adjustment of her status to permanent residence under section 1 of the Cuban Adjustment Act. On September 13, 2002, the applicant and [redacted] were divorced. The final judgment of dissolution of the marriage is contained in the record of proceeding.

Although the provisions of section 1 of the Act are applicable to the spouse or child of an alien described in the Act, it has been held in Matter of Bellido, 12 I&N Dec. 369 (Reg. Comm. 1967), that an applicant, who is not a native or citizen of Cuba and is not residing with the Cuban citizen spouse in the United States, is ineligible for adjustment of status pursuant to section 1 of the Act. The applicant and her Cuban spouse divorced on September 13, 2002, and are no longer residing together. Further, no

petitionable relationship existed between the applicant and her spouse since the divorce.

The applicant is, therefore, ineligible for adjustment of status pursuant to section 1 of the Act. The applicant was offered an opportunity to submit evidence in opposition to the acting district director's findings. No additional evidence has been entered into the record.

Pursuant to section 291 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1361, the burden of proof is upon the applicant to establish that she is eligible for adjustment of status. She has failed to meet that burden. The decision of the acting district director to deny the application will be affirmed.

ORDER: The acting district director's decision is affirmed.