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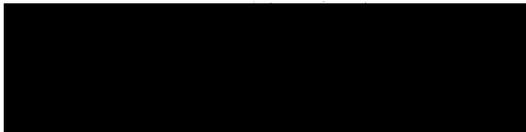
U.S. Department of Justice

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Immigration and Naturalization Service

B6

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



File: WAC 99 225 53778 Office: CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER

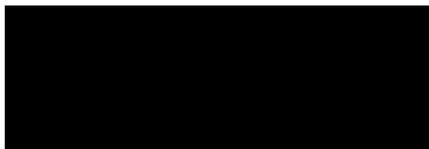
Date: **JAN 23 2003**

IN RE: Petitioner:
Beneficiary:



Petition: Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker as a Skilled Worker or Professional Pursuant to § 203(b)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. 1153(b)(3).

IN BEHALF OF PETITIONER:



INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision 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 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 that 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 that originally decided your case along with a fee of \$110 as required under 8 C.F.R. 103.7.

FOR THE ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER,
EXAMINATIONS

Robert P. Wiemann
Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The employment-based preference visa petition was denied by the Director, California Service Center. The director's decision to deny the petition was affirmed by the Associate Commissioner for Examinations on appeal. The matter is now before the Associate Commissioner on a motion to reopen. The motion will be granted. The previous decision of the Associate Commissioner will be affirmed and the petition will be denied.

The petitioner is a dentist's office. It seeks to employ the beneficiary permanently in the United States as a dental assistant, specializing in radiography. As required by statute, the petition is accompanied by an individual labor certification approved by the Department of Labor. The director determined that the petitioner had not established that the beneficiary met the petitioner's qualifications for the position as stated in the labor certification as of the petition's priority date.

Section 203(b)(3)(A)(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. 1153(b)(3)(A)(i), provides for the granting of preference classification to qualified immigrants who are capable, at the time of petitioning for classification under this paragraph, of performing skilled labor (requiring at least two years training or experience), not of a temporary or seasonal nature, for which qualified workers are not available in the United States.

Section 203(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act provides for the granting of preference classification to qualified immigrants who hold baccalaureate degrees and who are members of the professions.

A labor certification is an integral part of this petition, but the issuance of a labor certification does not mandate the approval of the relating petition. To be eligible for approval, a beneficiary must have all the training, education, and experience specified on the labor certification as of the petition's priority date. Matter of Wing's Tea House, 16 I&N Dec. 158 (Act. Reg. Comm. 1977). Here, the petition's filing date is January 30, 1996.

The Application for Alien Employment Certification (Form ETA 750) indicated that the position of dental assistant, specializing in radiography required a Bachelor of Science degree in Radiologic Technology, and ten years of experience in the job offered.

The director denied the petition noting that the beneficiary did not have the required Bachelor's degree in Radiologic Technology.

On motion, counsel reiterates his argument that:

2. At the time of the filing of the initial Application for Alien Employment Certification (ETA 750A) with the Employment Development Department on January 30, 1996, petitioner had no intent to require that the subject

alien/beneficiary be the holder of a baccalaureate degree or a "Bachelor of Science" degree. It was sufficient, for purposes of filling in the much needed position of Radiologic Technologist at that time that the alien/beneficiary be an associate degree holder in Radiologic Technology.

Counsel's argument is not persuasive. The beneficiary is required to have a bachelor's degree on the Form ETA 750. The petitioner's actual minimum requirements could have been clarified or changed before the ETA 750 was certified by the Department of Labor.

The issue here is whether the beneficiary met all of the requirements stated by the petitioner in block #14 of the labor certification as of the day it was filed with the Department of Labor. The petitioner has not indicated that an Associate degree in Radiologic Technology can be accepted as meeting the minimum educational requirements stated on the labor certification. Therefore, the Associate degree may not be accepted in lieu of education. The petitioner has not established that the beneficiary had a Bachelor's degree in Radiologic Technology on January 30, 1996. Therefore, the petition may not be approved.

The burden of proof in these proceedings rests solely with the petitioner. Section 291 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. 1361. The petitioner has not sustained that burden.

ORDER: The Associate Commissioner's decision of January 28, 2002 is affirmed. The petition is denied.