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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

[Redacted]

FILE: [Redacted]

Office: New Orleans

Date: **JAN 29 2013**

IN RE: Obligor:
Bonded Alien:

[Redacted]

IMMIGRATION BOND: Bond Conditioned for the Delivery of an Alien under Section 103 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. 1103

IN BEHALF OF OBLIGOR:

[Redacted]

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

Elizabeth Hayward
for Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The delivery bond in this matter was declared breached by the District Director, New Orleans, Louisiana, and is now before the Associate Commissioner for Examinations on appeal. The appeal will be sustained.

The record indicates that on December 31, 2001, the obligor posted a \$7,500 bond conditioned for the delivery of the above referenced alien. A Notice to Deliver Alien (Form I-340) dated April 23, 2002 was sent to the obligor via certified mail, return receipt requested. The notice demanded the bonded alien's surrender to the Immigration and Naturalization Service (the Service) at 10:00 a.m. on May 30, 2002, at 701 Loyola Avenue, Room T-9210, New Orleans, LA 70113. The obligor failed to present the alien, and the alien failed to appear as required. On June 3, 2002, the district director informed the obligor that the delivery bond had been breached.

Delivery bonds are violated if the obligor fails to cause the bonded alien to be produced or to produce himself/herself to an immigration officer or immigration judge, as specified in the appearance notice, upon each and every written request until removal proceedings are finally terminated, or until the said alien is actually accepted by the Service for detention or removal. Matter of Smith, 16 I&N Dec. 146 (Reg. Comm. 1977).

The regulations provide that an obligor shall be released from liability where there has been "substantial performance" of all conditions imposed by the terms of the bond. 8 C.F.R. 103.6(c)(3). A bond is breached when there has been a substantial violation of the stipulated conditions of the bond. 8 C.F.R. 103.6(e).

8 C.F.R. 103.5a(a)(2) provides that personal service may be effected by any of the following:

- (i) Delivery of a copy personally;
- (ii) Delivery of a copy at a person's dwelling house or usual place of abode by leaving it with some person of suitable age and discretion;
- (iii) Delivery of a copy at the office of an attorney or other person including a corporation, by leaving it with a person in charge;
- (iv) Mailing a copy by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, addressed to a person at his last known address.

The bond (Form I-352) provides in pertinent part that the obligor "agrees that any notice to him/her in connection with this bond may be accomplished by mail directed to him/her at the above address." In this case, the Form I-352 listed P.O. Box 3153, Harrisburg, PA 17105 as the obligor's address.

The evidence of record indicates that the Notice to Deliver Alien was sent to the obligor at P.O. Box 3153, Harrisburg, PA 17105 on April 23, 2002 via certified mail. This notice demanded that the obligor produce the bonded alien on May 30, 2002. The domestic return receipt indicates the obligor received notice to produce the bonded alien on April 30, 2002. Consequently, the record clearly establishes that the district director properly served notice on the obligor in compliance with 8 C.F.R. 103.5a(a)(2)(iv).

It is clear from the language used in the bond agreement that the obligor shall cause the alien to be produced or the alien shall produce himself to a Service officer upon each and every request of such officer until removal proceedings are either finally terminated or the alien is accepted by the Service for detention or removal.

On appeal, counsel asserts that the director violated the Amwest/Reno Settlement Agreement as the Form I-166 was mailed the same day as the Form I-340.

In the Amwest/Reno Settlement Agreement, entered into on June 22, 1995 by the Service and Far West Surety Insurance Company, the Service agreed that a Form I-166 letter would not be mailed to the alien's last known address before, and not less than 3 days after, the demand to produce the alien is mailed to the obligor.

A review of the record reveals that the envelope which contained the Form I-166 was returned by the post office due to insufficient address. The Form I-166 was mailed to the alien on April 23, 2002. As such, the Form I-166 was sent less than 3 days after the Form I-340 was mailed to the obligor.

Based on the provisions of the Amwest Agreement and the fact that the Form I-166 was sent less than 3 days after the Form I-340 was mailed to the obligor, the appeal will be sustained. The district director's decision declaring the bond breached will be rescinded and the bond will be continued in full force and effect.

ORDER: The appeal is sustained. The acting district director's decision declaring the bond breached is withdrawn and the bond is continued in full force and effect.