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U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Office of Administrative Appeals MS 2090
Washington, DC 20529-2090



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

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FILE:

Office: NEWARK, NJ

Date: MAY 14 2009

IN RE:

PETITION:

Petition for Amerasian, Widow(er), or Special Immigrant

ON BEHALF OF APPLICANT:

INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office 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 you have additional information that you wish to have considered, you may file a motion to reconsider or a motion to reopen. Please refer to 8 C.F.R. § 103.5 for the specific requirements. All motions must be submitted to the office that originally decided your case by filing a Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal or Motion, with a fee of \$585. Any motion must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reconsider or reopen, as required by 8 C.F.R. 103.5(a)(1)(i).

John F. Grissom

Acting Chief, Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The petition was revoked by the District Director, Newark (Mt. Laurel), New Jersey, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be rejected.

The record reflects that the petitioner is a native and citizen of Jamaica. On February 4, 2009, the district director revoked the petitioner's Form I-360, Petition for Amerasian, Widow(er), or Special Immigrant, and the petitioner filed an appeal from that revocation. The AAO does not have appellate jurisdiction over an appeal from the revocation of a Form I-360 based on widow status. The AAO also notes that the petitioner was instructed to file the appeal with the Board of Immigration Appeals.

The authority to adjudicate appeals is delegated to the AAO by the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) pursuant to the authority vested in him through the Homeland Security Act of 2002, Pub. L. 107-296. *See* DHS Delegation Number 0150.1 (effective March 1, 2003); *see also* 8 C.F.R. § 2.1 (2003). The AAO exercises appellate jurisdiction over the matters described at 8 C.F.R. § 103.1(f)(3)(iii) (as in effect on February 28, 2003).

The AAO cannot exercise appellate jurisdiction over additional matters on its own volition, or at the request of an applicant or petitioner. As a "statement of general . . . applicability and future effect designed to implement, interpret, or prescribe law or policy," the creation of appeal rights for adjustment application denials meets the definition of an agency "rule" under section 551 of the Administrative Procedure Act. The granting of appeal rights has a "substantive legal effect" because it is creating a new administrative "right," and it involves an economic interest (the fee). "If a rule creates rights, assigns duties, or imposes obligations, the basic tenor of which is not already outlined in the law itself, then it is substantive." *La Casa Del Convaleciente v. Sullivan*, 965 F.2d at 1175, 1178 (1st Cir. 1992). All substantive or legislative rule making requires notice and comment in the Federal Register.

The AAO does not have jurisdiction over an appeal from the revocation of a Form I-360 based on widow status. Accordingly, the appeal must be rejected.

ORDER: The appeal is rejected.