

Notice of Appeal to the Board of Immigration Appeals from a Decision of a DHS Officer

WHERE TO FILE THIS APPEAL:

Do not file this directly with the Board of Immigration Appeals.

This ^Notice of ^Appeal must be filed with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) within 30 calendar days after service of the decision of the DHS Officer. Please read the complete instructions on the back of this form.

1. Choose one of the boxes:

I am filing an appeal from a decision of a USCIS Officer:

Name of Beneficiary:

A-Number, if any, of Beneficiary:

Petition Form Number:

Fee Stamp (Official Use Only)

I am filing a different type of appeal from a decision of a DHS Officer (e.g., carrier and fine decisions, INA 212(d)(3)(A) waiver decisions, permissible DHS bond decisions)

Name:

A-Number, if any:

Carrier and fine number:

Any other relevant information:

2. I hereby appeal to the Board of Immigration Appeals from the decision of the

_____ issued by _____,
(Title of DHS Officer) (Office Where DHS Decision was Issued)

dated _____ in the above entitled case.
(Date of DHS Decision)

3. Specify reasons for this appeal and continue on separate sheets if necessary. Please refer to Instruction #2 for further guidance. *Warning: If the factual or legal basis for the appeal is not sufficiently described, the appeal may be summarily dismissed.*

4. Do you desire oral argument before the Board of Immigration Appeals? Yes No

5. Do you intend to file a separate written brief or statement after filing this Notice of Appeal?

Italicize Warning: If you ^{indicate} mark "yes" you will be expected to file a written brief or statement. Please refer to the Instructions for further information. Yes No

_____ Date

_____ Signature of Appellant (or Attorney or Representative)

_____ (Print or Type Name)

_____ Address (Number, Street, City, State, Zip Code)

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

(Please read carefully before completing and filing Form EOIR-29)

1. **General Information.** You are the "appellant" if you are filing an appeal from a decision of a DHS Officer. The Notice of Appeal (Form EOIR-29) asks for specific details about the underlying application you filed with DHS. Please refer to the decision of the DHS Officer for specific appeal instructions and for the requested details about the underlying application you filed with DHS.
2. **Filing.** You must file this Notice of Appeal with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). If the decision was handed to you by a USCIS Officer, you must file this Notice of Appeal within 30 calendar days. If the decision was mailed to you by the USCIS, this Notice of Appeal must be received within 30 calendar days from the date the decision was mailed to you. Follow the instructions included with the USCIS decision. *Do not send this Notice of Appeal directly to the Board of Immigration Appeals (Board).*

If you are appealing a decision by a USCIS Officer denying a visa petition (I-130 application), please note the following: List the name and "A" number of the **beneficiary** at the top of Form EOIR-29. The beneficiary is not allowed to sign Form EOIR-29. Only the **petitioner**, or a **self-petitioner**, is allowed to sign Form EOIR-29.

3. **Review.** Most appeals are reviewed by a single Board Member. If you assert that your appeal warrants review by a three-Board Member panel, you may identify the specific factual or legal basis for your contention.

Cases will be reviewed by a three-member panel only if the case presents one of these circumstances:

- The need to establish a precedent construing the meaning of laws, regulations, or procedures;
- The need to review a decision by the USCIS that is not in conformity with the law or with applicable precedents;
- The need to resolve a case or controversy of major national import; or,
- The need to reverse the decision of the USCIS, other than a reversal under 8 C.F.R. § 1003.1(e)(5).

4. **Fees.** A fee of one hundred and ten U.S. dollars (\$110.00) must be paid for filing this appeal. It cannot be refunded regardless of the action taken on the appeal. **All fees must be submitted in the exact amount. Do not mail cash.** Payment by bank drafts, cashier's checks, certified checks, personal checks, and money orders must be drawn on U.S. financial institutions and payable in U.S. funds. If you live in the United States or its territories, make the check or money order payable to U.S. Department of Homeland Security (not "USDHS" or "DHS"). If you live outside the United States or its territories, and are filing your application or petition where you live, contact the nearest U.S. Embassy or consulate for instructions on the method of payment. When a check is drawn on the account of a person other than the appellant, the name of the appellant must be entered on the face of the check. Personal checks are accepted subject to collectibility. *An uncollectible check will not satisfy the requirement and may result in the rejection of the appeal.*
5. **Counsel.** An appellant may be represented, at no expense to the Government, by an attorney or other duly authorized

representative. Only the petitioner, or a self-petitioner, may appeal the denial of a visa petition by USCIS. An attorney or authorized representative must file a separate notice of appearance on behalf of the petitioner (Form EOIR-27) with this Notice of Appeal. In presenting and prosecuting this appeal, ~~the USCIS~~ ^{DHS} may be represented by appropriate counsel.

6. **Briefs.** Briefs, if desired, are filed with DHS, at the same office as the Notice of Appeal (Form EOIR-29) and within the time frame specified by DHS ~~in its decision. If the time to file a brief is not specified by DHS in its decision, a brief should be filed within 21 days.~~ *See 30 C.F.R. § 1003.3(c)(2)*
7. **Oral Argument.** The Board will consider every case on the record submitted, whether or not oral arguments are presented. Oral argument may be requested. If approved, you will be notified.
8. **Summary Dismissal of Appeal.** The Board may summarily dismiss any appeal or portion of any appeal in which: (1) The appellant fails to specify the reasons for the appeal; (2) The only reason specified by the appellant for his/her appeal involves a finding of fact or conclusion of law which was conceded by him/her at a prior proceeding; (3) The appeal is from an order that granted the appellant the relief that had been requested; (4) The appeal is filed for an improper purpose, such as to cause unnecessary delay, or lacks an arguable basis in fact or law, unless the Board determines that it is supported by a good faith argument for extension, modification, or reversal of existing law; (5) The appellant indicates on Form EOIR-29 that he/she will file a separate brief or statement in support of the appeal and, thereafter, does not file such brief or statement, or reasonably explain his/her failure to do so, within the time set for filing; (6) The appeal does not fall within the Board's jurisdiction; (7) The appeal is untimely or barred by an affirmative waiver of the right to appeal that is clear on the record; or (8) The appeal fails to meet essential statutory or regulatory requirements or is expressly excluded by statute or regulation.
9. **Privacy Act Notice.** The information requested on this form is authorized by 8 C.F.R. § 1003.3(a)(2) in order to appeal a decision of a ~~USCIS~~ ^{DHS} Officer. The information you provide is mandatory and required to file an appeal. Failure to provide the requested information may result in rejection of your appeal. EOIR may share this information with others in accordance with approved routine uses described in EOIR's system of records notice, EOIR-001, Records and Management Information System, 69 Fed. Reg. 26,179 (May 11, 2004), or its successors and EOIR-003, Practitioner Complaint-Disciplinary Files, 64 Fed. Reg. 49237 (September 1999).

For further guidance please see the Board of Immigration Appeals *Practice Manual* which is available on the EOIR website at www.justice.gov/eoir.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act, a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. We try to create forms and instructions that are accurate, can be easily understood, and which impose the least possible burden on you to provide us with information. The estimated average time to complete this form is thirty (30) minutes. If you have comments regarding the accuracy of this estimate, or suggestions for making this form simpler, you can write to the Executive Office for Immigration Review, Office of the General Counsel, 5107 Leesburg Pike, Suite 2600, Falls Church, Virginia 20530.

Form EOIR-29 Appeal from a DHS Officer Decision – Narrative of Proposed Changes

1. Box at the top of page 1 (“Where to file this appeal”): Capitalize the phrase “Notice of Appeal”
2. Question 1, page 1, second box, change the language in the parenthesis as follows, to make the examples singular: (e.g., carrier and fine decisions, waiver decisions, permissible DHS bond decisions).
3. Capitalize all uses of the term “Officer” on the form instructions (see ¶ 1. General Information, 2. Filing, 9. Privacy Act Notice).
4. Italicize the “Warning” sentence in question 5 as follows, and change the word “mark” to “indicate”: *Warning: If you ~~mark~~ indicate “yes” you will be expected to file a written brief or statement. Please refer to the Instructions for further information.*
5. Form Instructions, ¶ 3. Review: indent the paragraph beginning with “Cases” and the four “-” points thereunder so that they align with the rest of the text.
6. Form Instructions, ¶ 4. Fees: correct the spelling of the word “collectability”
7. Form Instructions, ¶ 4. Fees: replace the last sentence with the following:
 - Delete: “~~An uncollectible check will render the appeal invalid.~~”
 - Add: “Payment that is uncollectible does not satisfy a fee requirement and may result in the rejection of the appeal.”
8. Form Instructions: Delete the use of the word “the” before DHS and USCIS when referring to those entities, where appropriate (see 2. Filing “mailed to you by the USCIS”); ¶ 3. Review (“the need to review a decision by the USCIS”, and “the need to reverse the decision of the USCIS”);
9. Form Instructions, ¶ 5. Counsel, replace “the USCIS” with “DHS” in the last sentence.
10. Form Instructions, ¶ 9. Privacy Act Notice: replace “USCIS” with “DHS”
11. Form Instructions, ¶ 6. Briefs: delete the following from the end of the paragraph, and insert “See 8 C.F.R. § 1003.3(c)(2)” at the end of the paragraph:

“Briefs, if desired, are filed with DHS, at the same office as the Notice of Appeal (Form EOIR-29) and within the time frame specified by DHS, ~~in its decision. If the time to file a brief has not been specified by DHS in its decision, a brief should be filed within 21 days. See 8 C.F.R. § 1003.3(c)(2).~~”
12. Revise the date at the bottom of each page to January 2015