EOIR-29 - Notice of Appeal to the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) from a Decision of a DHS Officer

#### Overview:

Form EOIR-29 is used to appeal a decision made by a Department of Homeland Security (DHS) officer - typically related to family-based immigrant visa petitions - to the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA). This appeal does not go through USCIS but directly to the BIA.

#### Who Can File:

- The petitioner (not the beneficiary) of a denied Form I-130 or I-360.
- The individual must have legal standing to file the appeal.
- The appeal must be filed within 30 days of the decision by the DHS officer.

# When to File:

- After receiving a denial notice (e.g., for Form I-130), you have 30 calendar days to file EOIR-29.

### Step-by-Step Instructions:

- 1. Obtain the Form:
  - Download EOIR-29 from the EOIR website: https://www.justice.gov/eoir/eoir-29

#### 2. Complete the Form:

- Provide basic information about the petitioner and the denied case.
- Include the USCIS office where the decision was made.
- Clearly state the reasons for appealing the DHS decision.
- Sign and date the form.

- 3. Prepare Supporting Documentation:
  - Include a copy of the denial notice.
  - Attach any new evidence or legal arguments supporting your appeal.

# 4. Filing the Form:

- Submit the completed EOIR-29 form to the \*\*same USCIS office\*\* that made the original decision.
  - Do NOT submit directly to the BIA.
  - USCIS will forward the appeal to the BIA.

# 5. Pay the Filing Fee:

- As of now, the fee is \$110.
- Pay via money order, cashier's check, or personal check payable to "U.S. Department of Justice."
  - Include the payment with the form submission.

### 6. Wait for Acknowledgement:

- USCIS will send confirmation that the appeal is received and then transfer it to the BIA.
- You'll receive a receipt notice and updates from the BIA regarding your appeal.

#### Important Notes:

- Only the petitioner may file this form not the beneficiary.
- Ensure the appeal is filed within the strict 30-day deadline.
- The BIA may take several months to issue a decision.
- You can request oral arguments or submit additional briefs to support your appeal.

# Tips:

- Make a copy of the entire submission for your records.
- Use tracking when mailing your appeal.
- Consult with an immigration attorney for complex appeals or legal strategy.

For more information, visit: https://www.justice.gov/eoir