

RELEASED IN PART B6

1-21

RE [redacted] family's Embassy Process [redacted] 12.21.2011.txt
From: Bell, Esther F
Sent: Wednesday, December 21, 2011 10:55 AM
To: [redacted]
Cc: Elliott, Evan L; Addis, Adoption
Subject: RE: [redacted] family's Embassy Process

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[redacted],
We have not yet screened your child's case. As such I cannot say when it will be ready for a visa interview. We will notify you if we require any additional information. Before the visa can be issued we need to complete the I-604 determination of orphan status. This can take several days to several months to complete.

We are expediting your case through the screening process but the I-604 determination may take longer than you expect. Again, I cannot schedule you for a visa appointment until we have cleared the case.

Please let me know if you have any other questions.

Esther Bell
Vice Consul
US Embassy
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
bellef@state.gov

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Barbara Nielsen, Senior Reviewer

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, December 21, 2011 10:47 AM
To: Bell, Esther F
Cc: Elliott, Evan L; Addis, Adoption
Subject: Re: [redacted] family's Embassy Process

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Thank you Esther for all of your assistance and for getting back to me so promptly. I am hoping to get an interview by Friday or before as I hear that your office will be closed on Monday, December 26th. Is that correct? If that is the case, I was hoping we could possibly have our visa appointment on Tuesday and fly out as scheduled on Tuesday night, December 27th.

You have been so helpful in the adoptions portfolio. I wish you the best in your future placement.

[redacted]

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From: "Bell, Esther F" <BelleF@state.gov>
Date: Tue, 20 Dec 2011 15:15:42 +0300
To: [redacted]
Cc: "Elliott, Evan L" <ElliottEL@state.gov>, "Addis, Adoption" <ConsAdoptionAddis@state.gov>
Subject: RE: [redacted] family's Embassy Process

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Jennifer,

Thank you for letting me know that you submitted the case file. I will have it expedited through the screening process. I cannot guarantee any interview slot before the case is cleared. we do have

RE [redacted] family's Embassy Process [redacted] 12.21.2011.txt
availability on almost every day in the future so do not worry about getting an
appointment once the
case is cleared.

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Also, I will be leaving the adoptions portfolio at the end of this week. I have
copied Evan Elliot on this
email. Please contact him starting next week if you have questions.

Regards,

Esther Bell
Vice Consul
US Embassy Ethiopia

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, December 20, 2011 12:43 PM
To: Bell, Esther F
Subject: Re: [redacted] family's Embassy Process

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Hi Esther,

I wanted to let you know that I came back to the Embassy this morning and submitted
all of the paperwork for
[redacted] I appreciate you speaking with me yesterday in person.

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I know that you have many cases on your plate. If our paperwork is complete, then I
just wanted to request a
possible completion date of December 27th as that is the day I have our flight
scheduled to depart home.

Thank you again for your time.

Best regards,

[redacted]

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From: "Bell, Esther F" <BelleF@state.gov>
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 2011 12:08:02 +0300
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] <duni.zenaye@ethiostork.org>, [redacted]

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[redacted]

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Subject: RE: [redacted] family's Embassy Process

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[redacted] families,

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Thank you for your email. On the day you do submit your cases send me another
reminder and I
will make sure to expedite them. Feel free to contact me with any more updates or
questions you
may have.

Regards,

Esther Bell
Vice Consul
US Embassy
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
bellef@state.gov

From: [redacted]

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RE [redacted] family's Embassy Process [redacted] 12.21.2011.txt

Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2011 7:37 PM

To: Bell, Esther F

Cc: [redacted]

Sovanna Mam; Kristen [redacted]

Subject: [redacted] family's Embassy Process

Dear Ms. Bell,

We just wanted to update you on our children's status. Ethiostork has informed us that our children have now received all of the proper documentation to be released from the UNICEF orphanage in Areka. [redacted] is currently on his way from Hosanna to Addis along with his two girls, and our lawyer will be transporting the [redacted] family's children tomorrow morning to Addis. Ethiostork has secured a team of nannies and transportation to make this possible, and we trust that our kids are in good hands.

We are grateful for your kind offer to expedite our I-600 forms due to our children's long stay in the south. We are emailing you today to let you know that we have been in touch with [redacted] at [redacted] and have requested that our families submit the I-600 forms independent of [redacted] I have cc'd Mrs. [redacted] on this email so that she is aware that I have contacted you on behalf of our four families. Ethiostork will be assisting us in completing this process and you can expect either one of their representatives or us delivering those directly to you. Thank you so much for being willing to assist us in this matter.

Sincerely,

The [redacted] families

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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-02657 Doc No. C05226825 Date: 02/28/2011

RELEASED IN PART B6

1-22

The two advertisements contained in the folder were submitted to the Embassy sometime between September 13-16, 2011.

The documents are dated Jan 22, 2011 and Feb 4, 2011. The Embassy began requesting advertisements to be run to search for abandoned children at the end of January 2011. Prior [redacted] cases from January-May and Aug-Sept did not include advertisements.

The originals of the advertisements are not newspaper copies but rather appear to be simply typed documents. The two documents for two different orphanages are identical except for the facts of the cases being different. No evidence was presented that indicated these ads were run in newspapers or posted in the towns. They are simply typed pieces of paper.

We suspect that these advertisements are recently created and likely were never posted/run in newspapers.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Barbara Nielsen, Senior Reviewer