

§ 213a.3

of the sponsor's obligations through an appropriate civil action.

(e) *Termination of support obligation.*

(1)(i) The sponsor's support obligation with respect to a sponsored immigrant terminates by operation of law when the sponsored immigrant:

(A) Becomes a citizen of the United States;

(B) Has worked, or can be credited with, 40 qualifying quarters of work; *provided*, that the sponsored immigrant is not credited with any quarter beginning after December 31, 1996, during which the sponsored immigrant receives any Federal means-tested public benefit;

(C) Ceases to hold the status of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence and has departed the United States; or

(D) Dies.

(ii) The sponsor's support obligation also terminates if the sponsor dies.

(2) The termination of the sponsor's support obligation does not relieve the sponsor (or the sponsor's estate) of any reimbursement obligation under section 213A(b) of the Act that accrued before the support obligation terminated.

(f) In the case of an alien who seeks to follow-to-join the principal sponsored immigrant, as provided for by section 203(d) of the Act, the same sponsor who filed the visa petition and affidavit of support for the principal sponsored immigrant must, at the time that the alien seeks to follow-to-join the principal sponsored immigrant, sign an affidavit of support on behalf of the alien who seeks to follow-to-join the principal sponsored immigrant. If that sponsor has died, then the alien who seeks to follow-to-join the principal sponsored immigrant shall be held to be inadmissible, unless another person, who would qualify as a joint sponsor if the principal sponsor were still alive, submits on behalf of the alien who seeks to follow-to-join the principal sponsored immigrant, an affidavit of support that meets the requirements of this section. If the original sponsor is deceased and no other eligible sponsor is available, the principal sponsored immigrant may sign an affidavit of support on behalf of the alien seeking to follow-to-join the principal immigrant, if the principal spon-

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sored immigrant can meet the requirements of paragraph (c) of this section.

[62 FR 54352, Oct. 20, 1997; 62 FR 60122, Nov. 6, 1997; 62 FR 64048, Dec. 3, 1997]

§ 213a.3 Notice of change of address.

(a) *General.* If the address of a sponsor (including a joint sponsor) changes for any reason while the sponsor's support obligation under the affidavit of support remains in effect with respect to any sponsored immigrant, the sponsor shall file Form I-865, Sponsor's Notice of Change of Address, with the Service no later than 30 days after the change of address becomes effective.

(b) *Civil penalty—(1) Amount of penalty.* (i) Except as provided in paragraph (b)(1)(ii) of this section, if the sponsor fails to give notice in accordance with paragraph (a) of this section, the Service may impose on the sponsor a civil penalty in an amount within the penalty range established in section 213A(d)(2)(A) of the Act.

(ii) If the sponsor, knowing that the sponsored immigrant has received any means-tested public benefit, fails to give notice in accordance with paragraph (a) of this section, the Service may impose on the sponsor a civil penalty in an amount within the penalty range established in section 213A(d)(2)(B) of the Act.

(2) *Procedure for imposing penalty.* The procedure for imposing a civil penalty under this paragraph follows that which is established at 8 CFR part 280.

(c) *Change of address.* If the sponsor is an alien, filing Form I-865 under this section does not satisfy or substitute for the change of address notice required under § 265.1 of this chapter.

§ 213a.4 Actions for reimbursement, public notice, and congressional reports.

(a) *Requests for reimbursement.* Requests for reimbursement under section 213A(b)(2) of the Act must be served by personal service, as defined by § 103.5a(a)(2) of this chapter. The request for reimbursement shall specify the date the sponsor's affidavit of support was received by the Service, the sponsored immigrant's name, alien registration number, address, and date of birth, as well as the types of means-