



April 11, 2008

President
Bill Roe

VIA E-MAIL

Vice President
Dee Jensen

Filomeno Apodaca
FMA International Athletes

Secretary
Lynn Cannon

fapodaca@aol.com

Treasurer
Ed Koch

Re: P-1 Visa petition on behalf of Bouchra Sahli and Joseph Koech

Dear Mr. Apodaca:

I write to inform you of the status of the letters of reference you requested from USA Track & Field (USATF) on behalf of various athletes who are seeking to obtain P-1 Visas in order to train and compete in the United States. We have reviewed the biographies you have provided on behalf of the athletes and have confirmed the racing results through our own research. We note, however, that two athletes, Bouchra Sahli and Joseph Koech, are affiliated with Spira track team. Further research indicates that Mr. Koech competed in the 2007 "Defy the Ban" 10k in El Paso, Texas. While IAAF and USATF rules do not target the Spira shoe, USATF Competition Rule 143.3(a) states the following:

"...The purpose of shoes for competition is to give protection and stability to the feet and a firm grip to the ground. Such shoes, however, must not be constructed so as to give the competitor any unfair additional assistance, including the incorporation of any technology which will give the wearer any unfair advantage, such as a spring or similar device..."

Further, IAAF Competition Rule 143.2 states the following:

"...All types of competition shoes must be approved by IAAF."

The IAAF has yet to clear Spira shoes for use in competition. Until such time, USATF cannot provide reference letters on behalf of athletes who are affiliated with or advocate the use of competition apparel that does not in comply with IAAF and USATF Rules. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Lamont Jones
General Counsel and Director of Business Affairs