

April 25, 2011

To whom it may concern;

My name is Kata Kitsommart and I am writing this letter to explain the circumstance that lead to my order of removal. I was first enter to the United States since 1997 as a F-1 student visa at Michigan State University. As an evidence presence, I have been on top tier of all of my classes while I was there. I was a dedicated and hard working student in Graduate Program in Packaging at MSU for six years. Among those years, I had made friends and colleagues along the way. I was not only a student there, I was also working part time job on campus to help my family whom were supporting me financially. I was a part-time employee for school on campus, a research assistance and even an intern for one of the prominent company in the world, Kellogg Co. and Monsanto Co. I had done my research thesis topic that was later chosen to be part of an annual conference that is well known in packaging industry. All the time I spent there, there were no wrong doing in my character. I have never violated any laws or regulations as an international student who just want to learn about new experience in life, new culture and get a degree from one of the big ten school in the country.

After my time as an internat Monsanto Co. was over, I had decided to pursue in the different direction. In 2003, I had moved to go to school at California State Polytechnic University in Pomona, CA to pursue a Master degree in Biology. The subjects had proved to be more challenged for me. Although I was not as an excellent as I was at MSU, I was still sustained my GPA. To be above 3.0 until there was personal matter that effected my concentration. I had to financially support myself one hundred percent at that point on, thus; I was hired to be a Teaching Associate at my department at Calpoly. In order to qualify for my degree, I was required to take classes that I was later on learn that it was too difficult for me to handle, English classes. I had to took it 3 times while teaching the class at the same time which I found to be too big burden for me to handle. As a result, my GPA. was slipped below 3.0. I was aware of the situation I was in at that time so I went to the international student advisor to ask for a permission to enroll in another program and trying to bring my GPA up again. She denied my requests to reinstate my status as a full time student there. Meanwhile, the quarter I was under enroll for one credit was the same one I was seeking for help to add into any classes that were open but I was refused to do so because it was a week of class too late. I was one unit short of full time status.

After I was arrested by ICE, I thought to make things right, I had to show my intention of undo any action that had done, so I went to the court and ask for a voluntary departure which I thought it was the best way to show that I understood what I had done was wrong and I was hoping to be pardon from that. Unfortunately, approximately a week before my voluntary departure date, I was involved in another traffic violation which resulted me to be jailed for 3 days. With the help of Dr. Fleisch I was bailed out form that case which later on was exonerated. I am a person who have never meant to hurt anyone and always want to do the right thing, I had to stay pass my voluntary departure date in order to not jump bail from my traffic case which would cause Dr. Fleisch to lose \$25,000 bail which was a lien on his house. During that time, I seek out from many lawyers and was in contact with ICE trying to extend my stay until I was assured by Agent Travino at ICE that I will not be under deportation status if I leave the country on the date we agreed, May 13, 2009. I left at my own expense late as agreed upon. In shock, however, Agent Lee from DHS/ICE handed me a form that said I had a ban for ten years. The traffic case was never written up or presented at the Clerk's window in Riverside so I thought the case had been dropped. Once again, I left the US. Under the impression that I will be

able to enter the country and pursue my degree as I wish in the first place. After arriving in Bangkok, I had made attempt couple of times to try to get a F-1 visa but I was denied. I was explained by the consular that I was deported (at my own expense) and there was nothing they can do to help me since the immigration case and traffic case are not recognized by the same court. I was attempted to contact agents from ICE ,but once again I was told there was nothing they can help me since I was not in the country anymore.

Currently, I am employed by Honda Trading Asia Company. This is one of the most well-known company ,under the Honda group, in the world. I am a Packaging Design Engineer for Honda Trading Asia. My incentive from this job is about \$1,200/ month plus bonus ,a minimum of 5 months based on my salary as well as 401k plan and health insurance among others. I am very happy to work for this company. I have seen a growth of the company from company profile year after year. I have friends and family here and I have two residencies in Thailand, one is in Bangkok and another is in Ayutthaya. One of the reason, among others, I wish to enter to the country is there might be a chance for me to visit our branch in Ohio or North Carolina, and I will not be able to do so is because of my mistake in the past. I honestly, do not want to miss an opportunity to grow with this company because of my mistake in the past. In addition, I have learned that my traffic violation case is not yet to be resolved. There is a warrant out for my arrest which I wish to be allowed to go back and work with another attorney to resolve that matter since it required me to appear in court only in order to resolve it.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere apology to all of my wrong actions in the past. I have never intended to violated my status throughout the years that I was in the US. And when I did, I had made attempts to correct them. I have learned my lesson and I have moved on to a good life in Thailand. I am a productive member to the society. I wish that I could go back and undo any wrong actions in past. Therefore, I am asking for this waiver to allow me to go back and give me another chance to correct my mistakes and to show that I truly am a person who have had all good intentions.

Sincerely,
Kata Kitsommart