



**U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services**

**Non-Precedent Decision of the  
Administrative Appeals Office**

In Re: 28132777

Date: NOV. 7, 2023

Appeal of Nebraska Service Center Decision

Form N-565, Application for Replacement Naturalization/Citizenship Document

The Applicant seeks a replacement of her lost original Certificate of Naturalization pursuant to section 343(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1454(a).

The Director of the Nebraska Service Center denied the application, concluding that the Applicant was not eligible for a replacement certificate because she failed to establish that she was issued an initial certificate by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), or its predecessor, Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS).

On appeal, the Applicant resubmits copies of her current and expired U.S. passports and reiterates that she naturalized as a U.S. citizen at the USCIS Portland, Oregon Field Office in 2007. She explains that she is unable to provide a copy of her original certificate because she lost it before a copy could be made.

The Applicant bears the burden of proof to demonstrate eligibility by a preponderance of the evidence. *Matter of Chawathe*, 25 I&N Dec. 369, 375-76 (AAO 2010). We review the questions in this matter de novo. *Matter of Christo's, Inc.*, 26 I&N Dec. 537, 537 n.2 (AAO 2015).

Our review of USCIS records corresponding to the information the Applicant provided on the instant Form N-565 indicates that she became a U.S. citizen through naturalization on August 6, 2007, at Portland, Oregon, and was issued a Certificate of Naturalization on that date.

We will therefore return the matter to the Director to consider the Applicant's request for a replacement Certificate of Naturalization anew.

**ORDER:** The Director's decision is withdrawn. The matter is remanded for the entry of a new decision consistent with the foregoing analysis.