

I was interviewed for a visa but I didn't get through. It wasn't fair, I was disrespected, and I think that it's discrimination. I am appealing to the Consul to review my case. My friends had their cases reviewed and I want mine too. It's not right.

Alphonso in Arima

Nobody likes to be refused a visa. But when that happens, you cannot appeal the decision nor have a review. U.S. Immigration Law states that the officer who interviewed you is the only person that can make a decision about your application, and at the Embassy in Port of Spain we must obey the same laws and regulations followed at all U.S. Embassies. You are correct that in the past the U.S. Embassy in Port of Spain sometimes allowed applicants who believed the decision was wrong to submit a request for review. But now, in accordance with guidance from Washington D.C. that is in force worldwide, we no longer do reviews of refusals.

If you think about it, a review is basically a reapplication. If you were refused, it means that an officer looked at your case, did the work, and decided, according to U.S. Immigration Law, that you are not qualified for the visa. So a review would require all that work to be done again. If you want another officer to look at your case, you must reapply with an entirely new application, and that means you need to fill out the form, pay the processing fee, make an appointment, and come in again for a new interview. We don't suggest that you reapply, though, unless and until there has been a significant change in your situation and qualifications because the next officer most likely will reach the same conclusion that the first one did.