

United States Court of Appeals
for the Fifth Circuit

United States Court of Appeals
Fifth Circuit

FILED

October 27, 2026

Thomas B. Plunkett, III
Clerk

No. 26-60093
Summary Calendar

LAURA SOTO-FIERROS,

Petitioner,

versus

TODD WALLACE BLANCHE, *U.S. Attorney General,*

Respondent.

Petition for Review of an Order of the
Board of Immigration Appeals
Agency No. A206 697 155

Before DAVIS, RICHMAN, and OLDHAM, *Circuit Judges.*

PER CURIAM:*

Laura Soto-Fierros, a native and citizen of Mexico, seeks review of the Board of Immigration Appeals' (BIA) denial of her motion to reconsider its summary dismissal of her appeal as untimely. We review "under a highly deferential abuse-of-discretion standard." *Gonzales-Veliz v. Barr*, 938 F.3d 219, 226 (5th Cir. 2019).

* This opinion is not designated for publication. See 5TH CIR. R. 47.5.

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Soto-Fierros argues her deadline to appeal should be equitably tolled because, despite diligently pursuing her rights, an extraordinary circumstance prevented her from timely noticing an appeal. But she has not shown an extraordinary circumstance. *See Lugo-Resendez v. Lynch*, 831 F.3d 337, 344 (5th Cir. 2016). Her counseled choice to bypass the BIA's electronic-filing requirement and attempt a paper filing is a self-inflicted misstep, not an extraordinary circumstance outside her control. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 1003.3(g)(1); *Holland v. Florida*, 560 U.S. 631, 653 (2010). Also, the 15-month delay by counsel to confirm that Soto-Fierros's appeal had been filed cuts against a finding of diligence. Because the BIA did not abuse its discretion in denying Soto-Fierros's motion to reconsider, her petition for review is DENIED.