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U.S. Citizenship
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Services

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FILE:

Office: CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER

Date:

MAR 16 2006

IN RE:

Applicant:



APPLICATION: Application for Permission to Reapply for Admission into the United States after
Deportation or Removal under section 212(a)(9)(A)(iii) of the Immigration and
Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(9)(A)(iii)

ON BEHALF OF APPLICANT:



INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office in your case. All documents have been returned to
the office that originally decided your case. Any further inquiry must be made to that office.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert P. Wiemann".

Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The Application for Permission to Reapply for Admission into the United States after Deportation or Removal (Form I-212) was denied by the Director, California Service Center, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The applicant is a native and citizen of Mexico who, on June 19, 1998, at the San Ysidro, California, Port of Entry, represented herself to be a citizen of the United States in order to gain admission into the United States. The applicant presented a valid U.S. birth certificate that did not belong to her. She was found to be inadmissible pursuant to section 212(a)(6)(C)(ii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(6)(C)(ii), as an alien who falsely represents herself to be a citizen of the United States for any purpose or benefit under the Act, and section 212(a)(7)(A)(i)(I) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(7)(A)(i)(I) for being an immigrant not in possession of a valid immigrant visa or other valid entry document. Consequently, on June 20, 1998, the applicant was expeditiously removed from the United States pursuant to section 235(b)(1) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(1). The record reflects that the applicant reentered the United States on an unknown date, but before February 3, 1999, the date she gave birth to her child, without a lawful admission or parole and without permission to reapply for admission, in violation of section 276 the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1326 (a felony). The applicant is the beneficiary of an approved Petition for Alien Relative (Form I-130) filed by her U.S. citizen spouse. The applicant is inadmissible under section 212(a)(9)(A)(i) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(9)(A)(i) and seeks permission to reapply for admission into the United States under section 212(a)(9)(A)(iii) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(9)(A)(iii) in order to remain in the United States and reside with her U.S. citizen spouse and child and her Lawful Permanent Resident (LRP) children.

The Director determined that section 241(a)(5) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. 1231(a)(5) applies in this matter and the applicant is not eligible and may not apply for any relief or benefit from his application. In addition, the Director determined that the applicant is not eligible for any exception or waiver under section 212(a)(6)(C)(ii) of the Act. The Director then denied the Form I-212 accordingly. *See Director's Decision* dated November 2, 2004.

Section 241(a) of the Act states in pertinent part:

(5) Reinstatement of removal orders against aliens illegally reentering. If the Attorney General [now the Secretary of Homeland Security, "Secretary"] finds that an alien has reentered the United States illegally after having been removed or having departed voluntarily, under an order of removal, the prior order of removal is reinstated from its original date and is not subject to being reopened or reviewed, the alien is not eligible and may not apply for any relief under this Act, and the alien shall be removed under the prior order at any time after the reentry.

The AAO finds that the Director erred in finding that section 241(a)(5) of the Act applies in this case. In its August 14, 2004 decision, *Perez-Gonzalez v. Ashcroft*, 379 F.3d 783 (9th Cir. 2004), the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that a Mexican national who returned to the United States following a deportation and had his deportation order reinstated may nonetheless obtain adjustment of status if his Form I-212 is granted. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals stated in *Perez-Gonzalez* that: "Given the fact that Perez-Gonzalez applied for the waiver *before* his deportation order was reinstated, he was not yet subject to its terms and, therefore, was not barred from applying for relief." The Court further states: "Prior administrative decisions of the Bureau of Immigration Appeals confirm the fact that permission to reapply is available on a *nunc pro tunc* basis, in

which the petitioner receives permission to reapply for admission after he or she has already reentered the country.”

The record of proceedings does not reveal that the applicant’s prior removal order was reinstated at the time she filed the Form I-212. Since this case arises in the Ninth Circuit, *Perez-Gonzalez* is controlling. The applicant is eligible to file a Form I-212. Although the applicant is not subject to section 241(a)(5) of the Act, she is clearly inadmissible under section 212(a)(9)(A) of the Act.

Section 212(a)(9)(A) of the Act states in pertinent part:

(A) Certain aliens previously removed.-

(i) Arriving aliens.- Any alien who has been ordered removed under section 235(b)(1) or at the end of proceedings under section 240 initiated upon the alien’s arrival in the United States and who again seeks admission within five years of the date of such removal (or within 20 years in the case of a second or subsequent removal or at any time in the case of an alien convicted of an aggravated felony) is inadmissible.

. . . .

(iii) Exception.- Clauses (i) and (ii) shall not apply to an alien seeking admission within a period if, prior to the date of the alien’s reembarkation at a place outside the United States or attempt to be admitted from foreign contiguous territory, the Secretary has consented to the alien’s reapplying for admission.

On appeal, counsel submits a brief in which he states that the Service’s decision was arbitrary, capricious and an abuse of discretion. Counsel states that the applicant qualifies for and satisfies the requirements for the grant of a Form I-212 since she is the spouse of a U.S. citizen and has four children residing legally in the United States. Counsel asserts that the decision states that the applicant did not reach the level of hardship as required by the Act, and this is in error, because the applicant has demonstrated and she continues to demonstrate that a denial of the waiver would cause extreme and unusual hardship to her U.S. citizen spouse and children. In addition, counsel states that the applicant has been married for nine years to a U.S. citizen with whom she has a U.S. citizen child and four other children who are LPR’s. Furthermore, counsel states that the applicant has no criminal record; has paid for her mistake and has presented evidence that she is a responsible individual with steady employment. Finally, counsel states that the facts presented establish and overcome the erroneous decision in denying the Form I-212 and that the applicant warrants a favorable discretion for a waiver.

The AAO notes that no place in the decision did the Director state that the applicant did not reach the level of hardship required by the Act. The Director denied the Form I-212 because he determined that the applicant is not eligible for any exception or waiver under the Act and, therefore, he did not abuse his discretion.

As noted above, the record reflects that on June 19, 1998, the applicant represented herself to be a citizen of the United States in order to gain admission into the United States. Therefore, the applicant is inadmissible under section 212(a)(6)(C)(ii) of the Act.

Section 212(a)(6)(C) of the Act provides, in pertinent part, that:

(ii) Falsely claiming citizenship -

(I) In general- Any alien who falsely represents, or has falsely represented, himself or herself to be a citizen of the United States for any purpose or benefit under this Act (including section 274A) or any other Federal or State law is inadmissible.

(II) Exception- In the case of an alien making a representation described in subclause (I), if each natural parent of the alien (or, in the case of an adopted alien, each adoptive parent of the alien) is or was a citizen (whether by birth or naturalization), the alien permanently resided in the United States prior to attaining the age of 16, and the alien reasonably believed at the time of making such representation that he or she was a citizen, the alien shall not be considered to be inadmissible under any provision of this subsection based on such representation.

The applicant in the instant case does not qualify for the exception under section 212(a)(6)(C)(ii)(II) of the Act.

Matter of Martinez-Torres, 10 I&N Dec. 776 (reg. Comm. 1964) held that an application for permission to reapply for admission is denied, in the exercise of discretion, to an alien who is mandatorily inadmissible to the United States under another section of the Act, and no purpose would be served in granting the application.

The applicant is subject to the provisions of section 212(a)(6)(C)(ii) of the Act, which are very specific and applicable. No waiver is available to an alien who has made a false claim to United States citizenship. Therefore, no purpose would be served in the favorable exercise of discretion in adjudicating the application to reapply for admission into the United States under section 212(a)(9)(A)(iii) of the Act. Accordingly, as the applicant is not admissible to the United States, the appeal will be dismissed.

ORDER: The appeal is dismissed.