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U.S. Department of Homeland Security
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U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

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FILE:



Office: Nebraska Service Center

Date: APR 11 2005

IN RE:

Applicant:



APPLICATION:

Application for Status as a Temporary Resident pursuant to Section 245A of the
Immigration and Nationality Act, as amended, 8 U.S.C. § 1255a

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 decided and certified your case.

Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The application for temporary resident status (legalization) was denied by the Director, Nebraska Service Center, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on certification. The decision will be affirmed.

The application was originally approved by the Director, Western Regional Processing Facility. However, the applicant's status as a temporary resident was terminated by the Director, California Service Center. An appeal of that decision was dismissed by the AAO. The Director, Nebraska Service Center granted a motion to reopen that was recently filed by the applicant pursuant to a class action lawsuit entitled *Proyecto San Pablo v. INS*, No. Civ 89-456-TUC-WDB (D. Ariz.). The decision in that case allows an alien whose status was terminated because he had been outside of the United States after January 1, 1982 under an order of deportation to have his application reopened.

The applicant was deported on December 17, 1982. Both directors noted that the applicant was outside of the United States under an order of deportation after January 1, 1982, and therefore did not reside continuously in the United States since such date.

In response, counsel states that the applicant was deported unlawfully.

An applicant for temporary residence must establish entry into the United States before January 1, 1982, and continuous residence in the United States in an unlawful status since such date and through the date the application is filed. Section 245A(a)(2) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1255a(a)(2). An alien shall not be considered to have resided continuously in the United States, if, during any period for which continuous residence is required, the alien was outside of the United States under an order of deportation. Section 245A(g)(2)(B)(i) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1255(g)(2)(b)(i).

Because of the deportation, the applicant did not reside continuously in the United States for the requisite period. As a result, he is statutorily ineligible for temporary residence.

Counsel and the applicant maintain that the applicant was deported unlawfully. The applicant indicates that when he was arrested, he was not actually aware, because he had not been advised of his rights, that he was agreeing to an expedited process that would result in immediate deportation. Current counsel states that the applicant was deported without regard to his right to counsel. It is noted that, earlier in these proceedings, the applicant stated: "An attorney was fabricated to deport me as I never signed to have an attorney defend me."

Counsel is requesting that Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) make a determination on judicial proceedings falling outside of its jurisdiction. The claim that an order of deportation or its execution may now be reviewed or essentially appealed in this proceeding cannot be accepted. As has been stated in the previous decisions in this matter, the deportation order of the Immigration Judge was appealable at the time to the Board of Immigration Appeals.

Relief is provided in the Act for absences based on factors other than deportation, specifically absences that were prolonged due to emergencies and absences approved under the advance parole provisions. Clearly, with respect to maintenance of continuous residence, it was not congressional intent to provide relief for absences under an order of deportation.

General grounds of inadmissibility, set forth in section 212(a) of the Act, apply to any alien seeking a visa or admission into the United States, or adjustment of status. The applicant's inadmissibility under section 212(a)(9)(A)(ii)(II) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(9)(ii)(II), for having been deported and having returned to the United States without authorization may be waived. However, an alien's inadmissibility under section 212(a) of the Act is a separate issue from the continuous residence issue discussed above. While the applicant's failure to maintain continuous residence and his inadmissibility for having been deported and having returned without authorization both stem from the deportation, a waiver exists only for the inadmissibility.

The question has arisen as to why, if the above interpretation is correct, the law would allow for a waiver of inadmissibility in the case of a deported alien while providing no waiver for a lack of continuous residence, also based on a deportation. It is noted that not all aliens who were deported in the past fail to meet the continuous residence requirement. For example, an alien who was deported in 1978 and reentered the United States before January 1, 1982 would be inadmissible because of the deportation and yet would not be ineligible for legalization on the continuous residence issue.

In summary, the applicant was out of the United States after January 1, 1982 under an order of deportation, and cannot be granted temporary residence for two reasons. He failed to maintain continuous residence, and there is no waiver available. Therefore, he is ineligible for temporary residence. Secondly, he is inadmissible under section 212(a)(9)(A)(ii)(II) of the Act as an alien who was deported and returned without permission. That ground of inadmissibility may be waived. The applicant filed a waiver application in an effort to overcome such inadmissibility. That waiver application was denied by the director, and the decision was affirmed by the AAO in a separate decision.

The applicant was deported, and therefore did not maintain continuous residence as required by section 245A(a)(2) of the Act. He remains ineligible for temporary residence.

ORDER: The director's decision is affirmed. This decision constitutes a final notice of ineligibility for temporary residence.