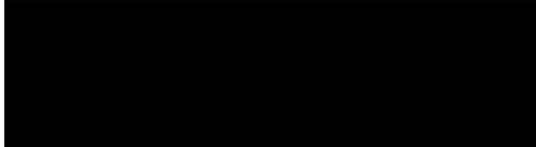




U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

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invasion of personal privacy



LA

FILE: [Redacted] Office: NATIONAL BENEFITS CENTER Date: AUG 19 2004

IN RE: Applicant: [Redacted]

APPLICATION: Application for Status as a Permanent Resident pursuant to Section 1104 of the Legal Immigration Family Equity (LIFE) Act of 2000, Pub. L. 106-553, 114 Stat. 2762 (2000), amended by Life Act Amendments, Pub. L. 106-554, 114 Stat. 2763 (2000).

ON BEHALF OF APPLICANT: Self-represented

INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office in your case. The file has been returned to the office that originally decided your case. If your appeal was sustained, or if your case was remanded for further action, you will be contacted. If your appeal was dismissed, you no longer have a case pending before this office, and you are not entitled to file a motion to reopen or reconsider your case.

Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The application for permanent resident status under the Legal Immigration Family Equity (LIFE) Act was denied by the Director, National Benefits Center, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The director concluded the applicant had not established that she had applied for class membership in any of the requisite legalization class-action lawsuits prior to October 1, 2000 and, therefore, denied the application.

On appeal, the applicant acknowledges that she is not a class member in any of the legalization class-action lawsuits, but is instead applying as an individual who has continuously resided in this country since January 1985.

An applicant for permanent resident status under the LIFE Act must establish that before October 1, 2000, he or she filed a written claim with the Attorney General for class membership in any of the following legalization class-action lawsuits: *Catholic Social Services, Inc. v. Meese*, vacated sub nom. *Reno v. Catholic Social Services, Inc.*, 509 U.S. 43 (1993) (CSS), *League of United Latin American Citizens v. INS*, vacated sub nom. *Reno v. Catholic Social Services, Inc.*, 509 U.S. 43 (1993) (LULAC), or *Zambrano v. INS*, vacated sub nom. *Immigration and Naturalization Service v. Zambrano*, 509 U.S. 918 (1993) (Zambrano). See 8 C.F.R. § 245a.10.

The regulations provide an illustrative list of documents that an applicant may submit to establish that he or she filed a written claim for class membership before October 1, 2000. Those regulations also permit the submission of "[a]ny other relevant document(s)." See 8 C.F.R. § 245a.14.

The applicant neither claimed nor documented that she filed a written claim to class membership. Rather, with her LIFE Act application, the applicant submitted documents relating to a previously filed an application for temporary resident status as a special agricultural worker (SAW) under section 210 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA). The applicant timely filed the application for temporary resident status as a SAW under section 210 of the INA on September 14, 1988, and this application was subsequently denied on July 31, 1992. The applicant's appeal to the denial of the SAW application was subsequently dismissed by the AAO on August 14, 1995. An application for SAW status does not constitute an application for class membership in any of the legalization class-action lawsuits. Furthermore, section 1104 of the LIFE Act contains no provision allowing for the reopening and reconsideration of a timely filed and previously denied application for temporary resident status as a special agricultural worker under section 210 of the INA.

Given her failure to claim, much less document that she filed a timely written claim for class membership, the applicant is ineligible for permanent residence under section 1104 of the LIFE Act.

It is noted that an applicant for permanent resident status under section 1104 of the LIFE Act 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 May 4, 1988. 8 C.F.R. § 245a.11(b). Both in her response to the notice of intent to deny and on appeal, the applicant specifically acknowledges that she began her most recent period of continuous residence in the United States in January 1985. Accordingly, the applicant is ineligible for permanent residence under section 1104 of the LIFE Act on this basis as well.

ORDER: The appeal is dismissed. This decision constitutes a final notice of ineligibility.