



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

W2



FILE: [REDACTED] Office: National Benefits Center Date: AUG 25 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. All documents have been returned to the office that originally decided your case. If your appeal was sustained, or if the matter 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

identifying data deleted to
prevent clearly unwarranted
invasion of personal privacy

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

The directors concluded the applicant had not established that he 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 submits photocopies of a Form for Determination of Class Membership in *CSS v. Meese* and a Corroborative Affidavit, both purportedly signed by him on February 17, 1996.

An applicant for permanent resident status under section 1104 of 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 one 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 section 1104(b) of the LIFE Act and 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 failed to submit any documentation addressing this requirement when the application was filed. On rebuttal to a notice of intent to deny dated August 5, 2002, the applicant submits a photocopy of a letter dated August 23, 2000, supposedly sent to former Attorney General Reno, requesting that the applicant be registered in the *CSS v. Meese* case. Pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 245a.10, a *written claim for class membership* means a filing, in writing, in one of the forms listed in § 245a.14, which provides the Attorney General with notice that the applicant meets the class definition in the cases of *CSS*, *LULAC* or *Zambrano*. The letter does not constitute a "form" and does not equate to the actual forms listed in 8 C.F.R. § 245a.14, although that regulation also states other "relevant documents" may be considered. However, the very brief letter does not even begin to imply that the applicant could qualify for *CSS v. Meese* class membership because it does not provide any relevant information upon which a determination could be made.

On rebuttal to a second notice of intent to deny dated July 1, 2002, the applicant provided a photocopy of a Form I-687 Application for Status as a Temporary Resident under section 245A of the INA allegedly signed by the applicant on February 17, 1996.

On appeal, the applicant submitted a Form for Determination of Class Membership in *CSS v. Reno* and a Corroborative Affidavit allegedly signed by the affidavit on February 17, 1996. Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) has no record of receiving the Form I-687, the *CSS* class membership determination form or the affidavit from the applicant in 1996. Nor has the applicant furnished any evidence, such as a postal receipt

or an acknowledgement letter that the forms were ever sent to CIS prior to the statutory deadline of October 1, 2000, for claiming class membership in CSS.

Additionally, the applicant does not explain *why*, if this letter and the three documents listed above were truly in his possession the entire time, he did not submit them with his LIFE application, as applicants were advised to provide evidence *with* their applications. Further, it is noted that the applicant is one of many aliens who did not furnish such identically worded letters to former Attorney General Reno in the same typeface with their LIFE applications, and yet provided them only upon receiving letters of intent to deny.

It is further noted that all of these aliens had their LIFE applications prepared by [REDACTED] of Professional Tax Service, Santa Maria, California. In addition, none of these aliens have provided any evidence, such as postal receipts, which might help demonstrate that the letters were actually sent to the Attorney General. Given the importance of the letters, it would be reasonable to conclude that at least some of the aliens would have sent them via certified or registered mail. These factors raise grave questions about the authenticity of the letter that the applicant purportedly sent to the Attorney General.

Doubt cast on any aspect of the evidence may lead to a reevaluation of the reliability and sufficiency of the remaining evidence. It is incumbent upon an applicant to resolve any inconsistencies in the record by independent objective evidence, and attempts to explain or reconcile such inconsistencies, absent competent objective evidence pointing to where the truth, in fact, lies, will not suffice. *See Matter of Ho*, 19 I&N Dec. 582 (BIA 1988).

Given his failure to establish that he filed a written claim for class membership, the applicant is ineligible for permanent residence under section 1104 of the LIFE Act.

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