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U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

LA

FILE:

Office: National Benefits Center

Date: JUN 23 2004

IN RE:

Applicant:

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

**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 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 states that she has been in the United States for over 14 years, that she filed under "245i" and that she filed for CSS before October 2000.

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 failed to submit any documentation addressing this requirement when the application was filed. Furthermore, she has not provided any documentation regarding that point on rebuttal or on appeal. There are no records within Citizenship and Immigration Services relating to a request for class membership by the applicant. Given this failure to 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.

Additionally, the regulations at 8 C.F.R. § 245a.11(b) require each applicant to demonstrate that he or she entered the United States prior to January 1, 1982. On the first page of her Form I-485 Application to Register Permanent Resident or Adjust Status she completed on April 30, 2002, the applicant stated, "I have been here since 1988." In this case, the applicant entered the United States subsequent to January 1, 1982 and is not able to meet the above requirement. Therefore, the applicant is ineligible for permanent residence under section 1104 of the LIFE Act for this additional reason.

It is noted that the applicant may not apply for benefits under section 245(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act in this proceeding. That section relates to beneficiaries of approved immigrant petitions or labor certifications.

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