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U.S. Department of Homeland Security
20 Mass. Rm. A3042, 425 I Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20536



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services



FILE: [Redacted] Office: NATIONAL BENEFITS CENTER Date:

IN RE: Applicant: [Redacted]

MAY 13 2009

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

id. Copying Date: 05/13/09
10:00 AM
NATIONAL BENEFITS CENTER

INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office in your case. The file has been returned to the National Benefits Center. 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

ORIGINAL COPY

DISCUSSION: The application for permanent resident status under the Legal Immigration Family Equity (LIFE) Act was denied by the Director, Missouri Service Center, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office 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 claims to have sent a request for class membership to the Washington, D.C. office of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (now Citizenship and Immigration Services, or CIS.)

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), League of United Latin American Citizens v. INS, vacated sub nom. Reno v. Catholic Social Services, Inc., 509 U.S. 43 (1993), or Zambrano v. INS, vacated sub nom. Immigration and Naturalization Service v. Zambrano, 509 U.S. 918 (1993). 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. The regulations also permit the submission of "[a]ny other relevant document(s)." See 8 C.F.R. § 245a.14.

Along with her LIFE application, the applicant included a photocopy of Form I-687, Application for Status as Temporary Resident under Section 245A of the Immigration and Nationality Act, dated March 7, 1988. She also provided an undated affidavit that described her purported attempts to apply for legalization during the actual filing period of May 5, 1987 to May 4, 1988.

The affidavit bears a "live" signature in ink. Thus, this is an original document, rather than a photocopy of what the applicant is claiming she had submitted in the past. If the applicant had actually submitted this document prior to October 1, 2000, it would be in the possession of CIS, and the applicant would only have a photocopy to furnish now in this LIFE proceeding. An examination of CIS records fails to disclose any evidence of this applicant having previously filed such an affidavit or the Form I-687. In fact, no CIS file was ever created in the name of the applicant until she filed this LIFE application on June 6, 2002.

It must be noted that the applicant is one of many aliens whose LIFE applications were prepared by [REDACTED] an immigration consultant in Chicago. Although he has also signed the appeals, [REDACTED] is not an accredited representative or otherwise authorized to represent aliens in proceedings before CIS.

Furthermore, all of his cases reviewed by this office thus far are the same in that none of the aliens had a pre-existing file with CIS prior to the filing of his or her LIFE application. Also, although LIFE applicants must demonstrate that they resided in the United States from January 1, 1982 to May 4, 1988, pursuant to 8 C.F.R. 245a.11(b), none of these applicants has provided any of the contemporaneous documents relating to residence during that period that are listed in 8 C.F.R. 245a.2(d)(3), such as pay stubs, W-2 forms, bills, school and medical records, receipts, licenses, registrations, and birth certificates of children born in the United States. The affidavits they have provided attesting to their residence for the 1982-88 period are all in the same stylized format with the same typeface, and they are all identically-worded "fill in the blank"

statements. Although they live in different parts of Chicago and its suburbs, the applicants all provide an affidavit attesting to membership in the same parish in Chicago.

As have the majority of these applicants, the applicant has provided two employment letters covering the 1981-88 period. The letters are originals, not photocopies, and are dated February 8, 1993 and December 15, 1986, which again raises the question of why would the applicant have originals of old letters that had presumably been submitted years ago as part of a request for class membership. Further, the letters simply appear to have been typed or printed in the recent past rather than 11 and 17 years ago.

On appeal the applicant has provided a photocopy of the photocopied Form I-687 that was submitted with her LIFE application. Inexplicably, the name of the applicant, and date of birth, are slightly different.

All of these factors and commonalities raise additional questions as to the eligibility of the applicant for adjustment of status under the LIFE Act.

Given her failure to establish having filed a timely written claim for class membership, and the dubious nature of her claim to have resided in the United States during the requisite period, 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.