



U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

WZ

[REDACTED]

FILE:

[REDACTED]

Office: NATIONAL BENEFITS CENTER

Date: SEP 03 2004

IN RE:

Applicant:

[REDACTED]

PETITION: 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

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identifying data deleted to  
prevent clearly unwarranted  
invasion of personal privacy

**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 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 indicates that he 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) (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. The regulations also permit the submission of "[a]ny other relevant document(s)." See 8 C.F.R. § 245a.14.

Along with his LIFE application, the applicant included a Form I-687 Application for Status as Temporary Resident Under Section 245A of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), dated August 17, 1987. The applicant also provided a Legalization Questionnaire dated December 17, 1999, and an undated document titled "Affidavit," which described his purported attempts to have applied for legalization during the actual filing period of May 5, 1987 to May 4, 1988. The Form I-687 application, Legalization Questionnaire, and the Affidavit all bear "live" signatures in ink. Thus, these are original documents; none of these are photocopies of what the applicant is apparently claiming he had submitted prior to October 1, 2000. That is, if the applicant had actually submitted any of these documents prior to October 1, 2000, they would be in the possession of CIS, and the applicant could only have photocopies of what he had previously submitted. An examination of CIS records fails to disclose any evidence of this applicant having previously filed such forms. In fact, no CIS A-file was ever created in the name of the applicant until he filed this LIFE application on December 9, 2002.

It must be noted that the applicant is one of many aliens whose LIFE applications were prepared by Mario E. Carretero, an immigration consultant in Chicago. Although he has also signed the appeal, [REDACTED] is not authorized to represent aliens in any proceeding before CIS. Furthermore, all of the 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 their LIFE applications. Also, although a LIFE applicant must demonstrate that he or she resided in the United States from January 1, 1982 to May 4, 1988, pursuant 8 C.F.R. 245a.11(b), none of these applicants have provided any contemporaneous evidence of such. Furthermore, nine affidavits the applicant submitted in support of his claim of residence for the 1982-88 period are in the same stylized format with the same typeface, and are identically-worded "fill in the blank" statements. These factors and commonalities raise additional questions as to the eligibility of the applicants for adjustment of status under the LIFE Act.

Given his failure to establish having filed a timely 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.