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U.S. Department of Justice

Immigration and Naturalization Service

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS
425 Eye Street N.W.
ULLB, 3rd Floor
Washington, D.C. 20536



FILE: [Redacted]

Office: California Service Center

Date:

MAY 10 2001

IN RE: Applicant:



APPLICATION: Application for Temporary Protected Status under § 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. 1254a

IN BEHALF OF APPLICANT:



Public Copy

INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision in your case. All documents have been returned to the office which originally decided your case. Any further inquiry must be made to that office.

If you believe the law was inappropriately applied or the analysis used in reaching the decision was inconsistent with the information provided or with precedent decisions, you may file a motion to reconsider. Such a motion must state the reasons for reconsideration and be supported by any pertinent precedent decisions. Any motion to reconsider must be filed with 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reconsider, as required under 8 C.F.R. 103.5(a)(1)(i).

If you have new or additional information which you wish to have considered, you may file a motion to reopen. Such a motion must state the new facts to be proved at the reopened proceeding and be supported by affidavits or other documentary evidence. Any motion to reopen must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reopen, except that failure to file before this period expires may be excused in the discretion of the Service where it is demonstrated that the delay was reasonable and beyond the control of the applicant or petitioner. Id.

Any motion must be filed with the office which originally decided your case along with a fee of \$110 as required under 8 C.F.R. 103.7.

FOR THE ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER,
EXAMINATIONS

Robert P. Wiemann, Acting Director
Administrative Appeals Office

Identification data deleted to
prevent clearly unwanted
invasion of personal privacy.

DISCUSSION: The application was denied by the Director, California Service Center, and is now before the Associate Commissioner for Examinations on appeal. The appeal will be rejected, and the matter will be remanded for further action.

The applicant is a native and citizen of Honduras who indicated on her application that she entered the United States in May 1990. The director denied the application for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) under § 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. 1254a, due to abandonment because the applicant failed to submit the requested documentation relating to her arrest.

On appeal, counsel submits evidence that the applicant was convicted of committing one misdemeanor.

Section 244(c) of the Act, and the related regulations in 8 C.F.R. 244.2, provide that an applicant who is a national of Honduras is eligible for temporary protected status only if such alien establishes that he or she:

- (a) Is a national of a state designated under § 244(b) of the Act;
- (b) Has been continuously physically present in the United States since January 5, 1999;
- (c) Has continuously resided in the United States since December 30, 1998;
- (d) Is admissible as an immigrant under § 244.3;
- (e) Is not ineligible under 8 C.F.R. 244.4; and
- (f) (1) Registers for TPS during the initial registration period, or
- (2) During any subsequent extension of such designation:
 - (i) The applicant is a nonimmigrant or has been granted voluntary departure status or any relief from removal;
 - (ii) The applicant has an application for change of status, adjustment of status, asylum, voluntary departure, or any relief from removal which is pending or subject to further review or appeal;
 - (iii) The applicant is a parolee or has a pending request for reparole; or

(iv) The applicant is a spouse or child of an alien currently eligible to be a TPS registrant.

The term continuously physically present, as used in 8 C.F.R. 244.1, means actual physical presence in the United States since January 5, 1999. Any departure, not authorized by the Service, including any brief, casual, and innocent departure, shall be deemed to break an alien's continuous physical presence.

The burden of proof is upon the applicant to establish that he or she meets the above requirements. Applicants shall submit all documentation as required in the instructions or requested by the Service. 8 C.F.R. 244.9(a). The sufficiency of all evidence will be judged according to its relevancy, consistency, credibility, and probative value. To meet his or her burden of proof the applicant must provide supporting documentary evidence of eligibility apart from his or her own statements. 8 C.F.R. 244.9(b).

8 C.F.R. 103.2(b)(13) provides that if all requested initial evidence is not submitted by the required date, the application or petition shall be considered abandoned and, accordingly, shall be denied. A denial due to abandonment may not be appealed, but an applicant or petitioner may file a motion to reopen under 8 C.F.R. 103.5.

There is no appeal of the director's decision in the present matter. If the applicant has additional evidence for the record, such documentation should be forwarded on a motion to reopen to the office having jurisdiction over the present application (the office which rendered the initial decision). Since there is no appeal of the decision in the present matter, the appeal will be rejected. The matter will be remanded to the director, to reopen on a motion and consider the evidence submitted by counsel.

ORDER: The appeal is rejected. The matter is remanded to the director for further consideration and the entry of a new decision, which if adverse to the applicant is to be certified to the Associate Commissioner for review.