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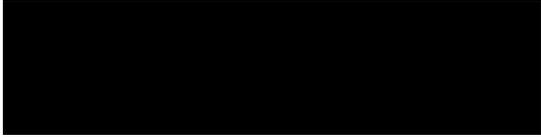
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Citizenship and Immigration Services

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ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS OFFICE
CIS, AAO, 20 Mass, 3/F
425 I Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20536



FILE:



OFFICE: Texas Service Center

DATE: DEC 10 2003

IN RE: Applicant:



APPLICATION:

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

ON BEHALF OF APPLICANT: Self-Represented

INSTRUCTIONS:

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

Robert P. Wiemann
Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The application was denied by the Director, Texas Service Center, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office on appeal. The appeal will be rejected.

The applicant is a native and citizen of Nicaragua who is seeking Temporary Protected Status (TPS) under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1254a.

The director determined that the applicant failed to submit evidence to establish that he was eligible for filing after the initial registration period from January 5, 1999 to August 20, 1999. The director, therefore, denied the application.

8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(B) states:

Untimely appeal--(1) Rejection without refund of filing fee. An appeal which is not filed within the time allowed must be rejected as improperly filed. In such a case, any filing fee the Service has accepted will not be refunded.

(2) Untimely appeal treated as motion. If an untimely appeal meets the requirements of a motion to reopen as described in § 103.5(a)(2) of this part or a motion to reconsider as described in § 103.5(a)(3) of this part, the appeal must be treated as a motion, and a decision must be made on the merits of the case.

The applicant, on appeal, claims he entered the United States on August 17, 1998. He states he did not apply for TPS during the eligibility period because he feared he would be deported. The applicant does not address the issue of eligibility for late registration. Thus, the applicant's statement on appeal does not meet the requirements of a motion.

Whenever a person has the right or is required to do some act within a prescribed period after the service of a motion and the notice is served by mail, three days shall be added to the prescribed period. Service by mail is complete upon mailing. 8 C.F.R. § 103.5a(b).

The decision, dated August 7, 2002, clearly advised the applicant that any appeal must be filed at the Texas Service Center within thirty days. Coupled with three days for mailing, the appeal in this case should have been filed on or before September 9, 2002. The appeal was dated by the applicant on August 27, 2002, and received at the Texas Service Center on January 10, 2003.



Based upon the applicant's failure to file a timely appeal, the appeal will be rejected.

ORDER: The appeal is rejected.