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U.S. Citizenship  
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FILE:   
EAC 03 208 52300

Office: Vermont Service Center

Date: DEC 16 2004

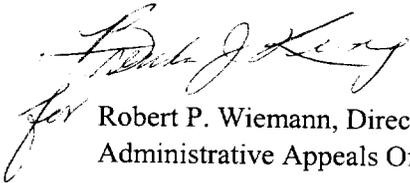
IN RE: Applicant: 

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 of the Administrative Appeals Office 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.

  
for Robert P. Wiemann, Director  
Administrative Appeals Office

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

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

The director denied the application because the applicant failed to establish that she was eligible for late registration.

On appeal, the applicant asserts her eligibility for TPS and submits evidence in support of her claim.

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 a foreign state designated by the Attorney General is eligible for TPS only if such alien establishes that he or she:

- (a) Is a national, as defined in section 101(a)(21) of the Act, of a foreign state designated under section 244(b) of the Act;
- (b) Has been continuously physically present in the United States since the effective date of the most recent designation of that foreign state;
- (c) Has continuously resided in the United States since such date as the Attorney General may designate;
- (d) Is admissible as an immigrant except as provided under section 244.3;
- (e) Is not ineligible under 8 C.F.R. § 244.4; and
- (f)
  - (1) Registers for TPS during the initial registration period announced by public notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER, or
  - (2) During any subsequent extension of such designation if at the time of the initial registration period:
    - (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.
- (g) Has filed an application for late registration with the appropriate Service director within a 60-day period immediately following the expiration or termination of conditions described in paragraph (f)(2) of this section.

Persons applying for TPS offered to Nicaraguans must demonstrate that they have continuously resided in the United States since December 30, 1998, and that they have been continuously physically present since January 5, 1999. The initial registration period for Nicaraguans was from January 5, 1999, through August 20, 1999. The record reveals that the applicant filed her application with Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS), on June 26, 2003.

To qualify for late registration, the applicant must provide evidence that during the initial registration period, she was either in a valid immigration status, had an application pending for relief from removal, was a parolee, or was the spouse or child of an alien currently eligible to be a TPS registrant, and she had filed an application for late registration within 60 days of the expiration or termination of the conditions described in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2).

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 CIS. 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).

On July 28, 2003, the applicant was requested to submit evidence establishing her eligibility for late registration as set forth in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2). The applicant was also requested to submit evidence to establish that she is a citizen or national of Nicaragua. In addition, she was requested to submit evidence establishing her continuous residence in the United States as of December 30, 1998, and her continuous physical presence in the United States from January 5, 1999, to the date of filing her application. The applicant did not respond to the director's request; therefore, the director determined that the applicant had failed to establish her eligibility for TPS and denied the application on November 14, 2003.

On appeal, the applicant states she came to the United States with her mother in January 1998; however, at that time, her mother did not have enough money to register her for TPS. She also states that she filed her initial registration for TPS on January 24, 2003, because her mother, Ms. Lisseth Gadea, already had TPS. She further claims that she did not get the director's July 28, 2003 notice. The applicant, on appeal, submits a copy of her mother's Employment Authorization card; a letter dated November 21, 2003, from a family friend, [REDACTED]; and copies of [REDACTED] passport.

A review of the record of proceedings reflects that the director's July 28, 2003 notice was sent to the applicant's last known address as indicated on her TPS application. It is noted that the applicant did respond timely to the director's decision to deny her application which was sent to the same street address in Chelsea, Massachusetts.

To establish eligibility for late registration, as a child of a TPS registrant, the applicant must fully satisfy the requirements of 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2)(iv) by providing evidence that his or her parent was eligible to be a TPS registrant, and evidence that the applicant was a "child" during the initial registration period. It appears the applicant is attempting to establish that she meets one of the eligibility requirements for late registration because her mother, [REDACTED] is eligible to be a TPS registrant. A review of CIS' computer systems indicate that her mother's application for TPS (EAC 02 192 51751) was denied on April 24, 2003, and a subsequently filed appeal (EAC 02 192 51751) on that decision was dismissed by the AAO on May 11, 2004. Further, the copy of her mother's Employment Authorization bears an eligibility category of "C19", indicating that her mother was eligible for employment authorization based on a pending TPS application. The applicant has not submitted any evidence to establish that she has met any of the criteria for late registration described in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2). Consequently, the director's decision to deny the application for TPS on these grounds will be affirmed.

Beyond the decision of the director, it also is noted that the applicant has provided insufficient evidence to establish her qualifying continuous physical presence and continuous residence during the requisite time periods. 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(b) and (c). Accordingly, the application will also be denied for these reasons.

An alien applying for TPS has the burden of proving that he or she meets the requirements enumerated above and is otherwise eligible under the provisions of section 244 of the Act. The applicant has failed to meet this burden.

**ORDER:** The appeal is dismissed.