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U.S. Citizenship
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FILE:



Office: CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER

Date: **DEC 15 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.

Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The application was denied by the Director, California 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 El Salvador who is seeking Temporary Protected Status (TPS) under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1254.

The director determined that the applicant failed to comply to his request to submit final court dispositions of all his arrests. The director, therefore, denied the application.

On appeal, the applicant submits the requested court dispositions.

Section 244(c) of the Act, and the related regulations in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2, provide that an alien who is a national of a foreign state designated by the Attorney General is eligible for temporary protected status 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.

Pursuant to section 244(c)(2)(B)(i) of the Act and the related regulations in 8 C.F.R. § 244.4(a), an alien shall not be eligible for temporary protected status if the Attorney General, now, the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (the Secretary), finds that the alien has been convicted of any felony or two or more misdemeanors committed in the United States.

8 C.F.R. § 244.1 defines "felony" and "misdemeanor:"

Felony means a crime committed in the United States punishable by imprisonment for a term of more than one year, regardless of the term such alien actually served, if any, except when the offense is defined by the State as a misdemeanor, and the sentence actually imposed is one year or less regardless of the term such alien actually served. Under this exception for purposes of section 244 of the Act, the crime shall be treated as a misdemeanor.

Misdemeanor means a crime committed in the United States, either:

- (1) Punishable by imprisonment for a term of one year or less, regardless of the term such alien actually served, if any, or
- (2) A crime treated as a misdemeanor under the term "felony" of this section.

For purposes of this definition, any crime punishable by imprisonment for a maximum term of five days or less shall not be considered a felony or misdemeanor.

The record reflects the following:

1. On December 23, 1999, in the Municipal Court of Compton Judicial District, County of Los Angeles, California, Case No. [REDACTED] (arrest date November 6, 1999), the applicant was indicted for Count 1, driving under the influence of alcohol/drug, 23152(a) VC, a misdemeanor; Count 2, driving with .08 percent blood alcohol level or more, 23152(b) VC, a misdemeanor; and Count 3, unlicensed driver, 12500(a) VC, a misdemeanor. On January 19, 2001, the applicant was convicted of Count 2. He was placed on probation for a period of 36 months, ordered to spend 5 days in the county jail, and pay the total of \$1,158 in fines, costs, and restitution fee. Counts 1 and 3 were dismissed.
2. On November 27, 2000, in the Municipal Court of Compton Judicial District, County of Los Angeles, California, Case No. [REDACTED] (arrest date November 26, 2000), the applicant was indicted for Count 1, driving under the influence of alcohol/drug, 23152(a) VC, with prior, a misdemeanor; Count 2, driving with .08 percent blood alcohol level or more, 23152(b) VC, with prior, a misdemeanor; Count 3, driving with suspended-revoked license, 14601.5(a) VC, a misdemeanor; and Count 4, no proof of car insurance, 16028(a) VC, an infraction. On January 19, 2001, the applicant was convicted of Count 2. He was placed on probation for a period of 36 months, ordered to spend 5 days in the county jail, and pay the total of \$1,158 in fines, costs, and restitution fee. Counts 1, 3, and 4 were dismissed.

Accordingly, the applicant is ineligible for TPS, pursuant to section 244(c)(2)(B)(i) of the Act, based on his two misdemeanor convictions. There is no waiver available to an alien convicted of a felony or two or more misdemeanors committed in the United States.

It is noted that the record of proceeding contains an outstanding Warrant of Removal/Deportation, Form I-205, issued on June 19, 1998, and that the applicant failed to appear at the Los Angeles district office on July 28, 1998, for his enforced departure.

The burden of proof is upon the applicant to establish that he 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. Accordingly, the appeal will be dismissed.

ORDER: The appeal is dismissed.