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U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
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U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services



FILE: [REDACTED] Office: CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER Date: DEC 16 2004

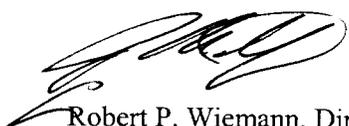
IN RE: Applicant: [REDACTED]

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 was ineligible for TPS because he had been convicted of two misdemeanors committed in the United States. The director, therefore, denied the application.

On appeal, the applicant requests reconsideration because if he would lose his job and unable to support his family if he does not possess a valid work permit. He states that he is now a better and more responsible person.

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.

Section 212(a)(2) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(2), provides that aliens inadmissible and ineligible to receive visas and ineligible to be admitted to the United States include:

- (A)(i) Any alien convicted of, or who admits having committed, or who admits committing acts which constitute the essential elements of ...
  - (I) a crime involving moral turpitude (other than a purely political offense) or an attempt or conspiracy to commit such a crime, or...

The record reflects the following:

1. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) fingerprint results report shows that on November 1, 1988, in Los Angeles, California, the applicant was arrested and charged with inflicting corporal injury on spouse or cohabitant. The final court disposition of this arrest is not contained in the record of proceeding.
2. On December 27, 1990, in the Municipal Court of Los Angeles, Criminal Judicial District, County of Los Angeles, California, Case No. [REDACTED] (arrest date December 25, 1990), the applicant was indicted for inflicting corporal injury on spouse, in violation of 273.5(a) PC. On March 14, 1991, the applicant was convicted of the crime, and he was placed on probation for a period of 24 months, ordered to serve 20 days "CAL-TRANS," and complete a 6-month domestic violence counseling program.
3. On January 29, 1993, in the Municipal Court of Los Angeles, Criminal Judicial District, County of Los Angeles, California, Case No. [REDACTED] (arrest date January 10, 1993), the applicant was indicted

for Count 1, battery, in violation of 242 PC, a misdemeanor; Count 2, battery, 242 PC, a misdemeanor; Count 3, battery, 242 PC, a misdemeanor; Count 4, battery, 242 PC, a misdemeanor; and Count 5, preventing/dissuading witness or victim from testifying, 136.1(a) PC, a misdemeanor. On March 29, 1993, the applicant was convicted of Count 1. He was placed on probation for a period of 24 months, and ordered to spend 45 days in the county jail and perform 20 days of "CAL TRANS." Counts 2, 3, 4, and 5 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. The applicant filed Form I-601, Application for Waiver of Grounds of Excludability, based on his convictions of Nos. 2 and 3 above. However, there is no waiver available to an alien convicted of a felony or two misdemeanors committed in the United States.

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.