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FILE: [Redacted]

Office: TEXAS SERVICE CENTER Date: JUN 29 2004

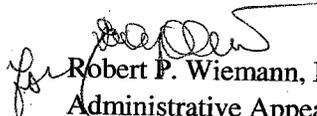
IN RE: Applicant: [Redacted]

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, Texas Service Center, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be rejected.

The applicant is a native and citizen of Honduras 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 denied the application because 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.

An appeal that 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. 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(B)(1).

Whenever a person has the right or is required to do some act within a prescribed period after the service of a notice upon him 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 director's decision of denial, dated May 3, 2003, clearly advised the applicant that any appeal must be properly filed within thirty days after service of the decision. 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(i). Coupled with three days for mailing, the appeal, in this case, should have been filed on or before June 6, 2003. The Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal, is very clear in indicating that the appeal is not to be sent directly to the AAO; but, rather, to the "office which made the unfavorable decision." The applicant, nevertheless, sent his appeal to the AAO. The appeal is not considered properly received until it is received by the Service Center that rendered the unfavorable decision. The appeal was properly received at the Texas Service Center on July 21, 2003.

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

It is noted that the record of proceeding reflects that the applicant was removed from the United States on November 16, 2000, based on an order by an Immigration Judge on September 9, 1997.

ORDER: The appeal is rejected.