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FILE:



Office: TEXAS SERVICE CENTER

Date: **AUG 29 2005**

[SRC 03 256 54585]

IN RE:

Applicant:

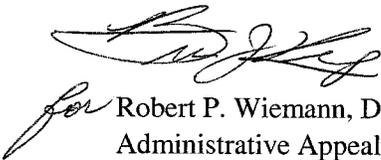


APPLICATION: Application for Temporary Protected Status under Section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1254

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, Texas Service Center, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The applicant is stated to be a native and citizen of Honduras 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 he was eligible for late registration. The director also found that the applicant had failed to submit a copy of his current driver's license and any national identity document from his country of origin.

On appeal, the applicant states:

I feel the service should review my case a littler farther. I have provided documentation as to my physical presence in the United States. I did not apply before because I was not fully aware of the prerequisites that were needed and because of financial problems. I am a father to be and I will not be a burden to this country. Please review my case and understand my situation.

Section 244(c) of the Act, and the related regulations at 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 of a 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 Temporary Protected Status 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.

Sec. 244.9 Evidence.

(a) *Documentation.* Applicants shall submit all documentation as required in the instructions or requested by the Service. The Service may require proof of unsuccessful efforts to obtain documents claimed to be unavailable. If any required document is unavailable, an affidavit or other credible evidence may be submitted.

(1) *Evidence of identity and nationality.* Each application must be accompanied by evidence of the applicant's identity and nationality, if available. If these documents are unavailable, the applicant shall file an affidavit showing proof of unsuccessful efforts to obtain such identity documents, explaining why the consular process is unavailable, and affirming that he or she is a national of the designated foreign state. A personal interview before an immigration officer shall be required for each applicant who fails to provide documentary proof of identity or nationality. During this interview, the applicant may present any secondary evidence that he or she feels would be helpful in showing nationality. Acceptable evidence in descending order of preference may consist of: (Amended 11/16/98; 63 FR 63593)

(i) Passport;

(ii) Birth certificate accompanied by photo identification; and/or

(iii) Any national identity document from the alien's country of origin bearing photo and/or fingerprint.

In this case, the director objected that the applicant had not submitted his driver's license and any national identity document from his country of origin. The applicant has not submitted these documents on appeal. Applicants must submit all documentation as requested by Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS). If any required documentation is unavailable, an affidavit or other credible evidence may be submitted. The applicant has not

provided his driver's license or national identity documents or documentation as to their unavailability as required by the regulations at 8 C.F.R. § 244.9(a).

Beyond the decision of the director, it also is noted that the applicant has provided insufficient evidence to establish that he is a national or citizen of Honduras. The applicant has provided a copy of his birth certificate along with an English translation. However, a birth certificate alone does not establish nationality. The record does not contain any photo identification or national identity document. 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(a)(1). Therefore, the application is denied for this additional reason.

Persons applying for TPS offered to Honduras 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 Honduras was from January 5, 1999, through August 20, 1999. The record shows that the applicant filed his application with CIS, on September 15, 2003.

To qualify for late registration, an applicant must provide evidence that during the initial registration period, he or she fell within at least one of the provisions described in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2) above.

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 her burden of proof the applicant must provide supporting documentary evidence of eligibility apart from his own statements. 8 C.F.R. § 244.9(b).

On January 29, 2004, the applicant was requested to submit evidence establishing his eligibility for late registration as set forth in the regulations at 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2). The applicant, in response, provided documentation relating to his residence and physical presence in this country. However, he did not submit any evidence to establish that he was eligible for late initial registration.

On appeal, the applicant submitted evidence in an attempt to establish his qualifying residence and physical presence in the United States. However, this evidence does not mitigate the applicant's failure to file his Application for Temporary Protected Status within the initial registration period. The applicant has not submitted any evidence to establish that he has met any of the criteria for late registration described in the regulations at 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2). Consequently, the director's decision to deny the application for TPS is affirmed.

Beyond the decision of the director, it also is noted that the applicant has provided insufficient evidence to establish his continuous qualifying residence and continuous physical presence during the requisite time periods. Therefore, the application cannot be approved for these additional 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.