



U.S. Citizenship
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Services

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FILE: [REDACTED] Office: CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER Date: **JUL 18 2005**
[WAC 03 266 53327]

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 denied the application because the applicant failed to establish he was eligible for late registration.

On appeal, the applicant submits a statement.

Section 244(c) of the Act, and the related regulations in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2, provide that an applicant 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 § 244.3;
- (e) Is not ineligible under § 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.

Persons applying for TPS offered to El Salvadorans must demonstrate continuous residence in the United States since February 13, 2001, and continuous physical presence since March 9, 2001. The initial registration period for Salvadorans was from March 9, 2001, through September 9, 2002. The record reveals that the applicant filed his initial application with Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) on September 15, 2003.

To qualify for late registration, the applicant must provide evidence that during the initial registration period, he 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 he 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 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 burden of proof the applicant must provide supporting documentary evidence of eligibility apart from his own statements. 8 C.F.R. § 244.9(b).

The applicant initially submitted a "fill-in-the-blank" letter from [REDACTED] CIS registration number [REDACTED] requesting that the applicant be included in her application as her dependent. The applicant also submitted a purported Salvadoran marriage certificate with English translation indicating that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were married in Puerto El Triunfo, Usulután, El Salvador, on June 10, 1999.

On March 16, 2004, the applicant was requested to submit evidence of identity and nationality, evidence to establish his eligibility for late initial registration, and evidence to establish his continuous residence in the United States since February 13, 2001, and his continuous physical presence in the United States since March 9, 2001. In response; the applicant submitted a photocopy of his Salvadoran cedula and documentation relating to his residence and physical presence in the United States, but he failed to submit any additional evidence to establish his eligibility for late initial registration.

The director determined that the applicant had failed to establish he was eligible for late registration and denied the application on April 27, 2004.

On appeal, the applicant asserts that he qualifies for late initial registration as the spouse of an alien who was currently eligible to be a TPS registrant during the initial registration period.

The record indicates that [REDACTED] has been granted TPS; however, CIS records also indicate that Ms. [REDACTED] listed her marital status as "single" on her TPS application. Furthermore, it is noted that the applicant's marital status is listed as single [REDACTED] on the photocopy of his Salvadoran national identity document [REDACTED]. The applicant's cedula was issued on January 1, 2003. If the applicant was married on June 10, 1999, his marital status should be listed as "married" [REDACTED] on the cedula, not as single [REDACTED]. The applicant has not provided any explanation for these discrepancies. Doubt cast on any aspect of the applicant's proof may lead to a reevaluation of the reliability and sufficiency of the remaining evidence offered in support of the visa petition. Further, it is incumbent on the applicant to resolve any inconsistencies in the record by independent objective evidence, and attempts to explain or reconcile such inconsistencies, absent competent objective evidence pointing to where the truth lies, will not suffice. *Matter of Ho*, 19 I&N Dec. 582. (Comm. 1988).

Pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 103.2(b)(3), any document containing foreign language submitted to CIS must be accompanied by a full English language translation that the translator has certified as complete and accurate, and by the translator's certification that he or she is competent to translate from the foreign language into English. The English translations submitted by the applicant have not been signed by the translator or certified as accurate and complete or certifying that the translator is competent to translate from Spanish to English. The translator's name does not even appear on the English translations. Therefore, these translations will not be accepted as valid translations. Since the translations cannot be accepted as valid translations, the Spanish language documents themselves cannot be accepted without proper English translation.

In view of the foregoing, it is concluded that the applicant has not submitted sufficient credible evidence to establish that he was the spouse of an alien who was currently eligible to be a TPS registrant during the initial registration period for Salvadorans. The applicant has not submitted any evidence to establish that he has met any of the other criteria for late registration described in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2). Consequently, the director's decision to deny the application for temporary protected status will be affirmed.

Beyond the decision of the director, the applicant has not submitted sufficient credible evidence to establish continuous residence in the United States since February 13, 2001, and continuous physical presence in the United States since March 9, 2001. Therefore, the application also must be denied for these reasons.

An alien applying for temporary protected status 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.