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U.S. Department of Homeland Security
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Washington, DC 20529



**U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services**

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[REDACTED]

FILE: [REDACTED]
[LIN 03 244 50793]

Office: NEBRASKA SERVICE CENTER

Date: JUN 23 2005

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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Wiemann".

Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The application was denied by the Director, Nebraska 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 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 he failed to establish his eligibility for late initial registration. The director also denied the application because the applicant failed to establish continuous residence in the United States since February 13, 2001, and continuous physical presence in the United States since March 9, 2001.

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 December 2, 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 January 5, 2004. 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 Nebraska Service Center. 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 Nebraska Service Center on February 9, 2004.

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

ORDER: The appeal is rejected.