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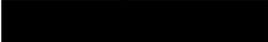
U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

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FILE:



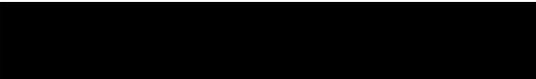
Office: VERMONT SERVICE CENTER

Date: MAR 08 2005

[EAC 02 032 53933]

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.

Robert P. Wiemann, Director  
Administrative Appeals Office

**DISCUSSION:** The application was denied by the Director, Vermont Service Center, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The decision of the director is withdrawn, and the case is remanded.

The applicant is stated to be 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.

Pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(1)(i), when an officer [of Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS), formerly, the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS)] denies an application, the officer "shall explain in writing the specific reasons for denial."

The director denied the application on September 29, 2003. The director's decision does not clearly indicate the specific basis for the decision. While the director's decision does indicate that the applicant failed to respond to a July 28, 2003 request for evidence, this assertion is not accurate. The record of proceedings contains the applicant's response that was received on August 27, 2003. Therefore, the case will be remanded for the issuance of a new decision that sets forth the specific reasons for denial of the application.

As always in these proceedings, the burden of proof rests solely with the applicant. Section 291 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1361.

**ORDER:** The case is remanded.