



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

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FILE: [REDACTED] OFFICE: NEBRASKA SERVICE CENTER DATE: **NOV 18 2005**
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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DISCUSSION: The approval of the application was revoked by the Director, Nebraska Service Center, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The applicant claims to be a citizen of El Salvador who is seeking Temporary Protected Status (TPS) under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA, or the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1254.

The director initially approved the application on December 6, 2001. On March 1, 2004, the director withdrew approval of the application because he found the applicant ineligible for TPS due to his having been convicted of two or more misdemeanors committed in the United States.

On appeal, the applicant requests an additional 90 days in which to submit a brief and/or evidence to the AAO. To date, no additional documentation has been received; therefore, the record is considered complete.

Temporary Protected Status shall be withdrawn if it is found that the alien was not, in fact, eligible for such status. Section 244(c)(3)(A) INA.

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.

An alien shall not be eligible for temporary protected status under this section if the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security finds that the alien has been convicted of any felony or two or more misdemeanors committed in the United States. See Section 244(c)(2)(B)(i) of the Act and 8 C.F.R. § 244.4(a).

8 C.F.R. § 244.1 defines “felony” and “misdemeanor:”

Felony means a crime committed in the United States, punishable by imprisonment for a term of more than one year, regardless of the term such alien actually served, if any, except: When the offense is defined by the State as a misdemeanor and the sentence actually imposed is one year or less regardless of the term such alien actually served. Under this exception for purposes of section 244 of the Act, the crime shall be treated as a misdemeanor.

Misdemeanor means a crime committed in the United States, either

- (1) Punishable by imprisonment for a term of one year or less, regardless of the term such alien actually served, if any, or
- (2) A crime treated as a misdemeanor under the term "felony" of this section.

For purposes of this definition, any crime punishable by imprisonment for a maximum term of five days or less shall not be considered a misdemeanor.

The record reveals the following offenses:

1. On July 23, 1991, the applicant was convicted of “Theft III,” in the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Multnomah (Case No. DA [REDACTED])
2. On September 30, 1999, the applicant was convicted of “Theft 2, PCS 2, DUI 1” in the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Multnomah (Case No. [REDACTED])

On appeal, the applicant submits a letter, dated February 25, 2004, indicating that he filed a Motion to Set Aside Conviction/Arrest for the above cases, as well as an additional conviction (Case No. [REDACTED]). A hearing in the matter was set for May 13, 1994. The applicant has not submitted any further documentation relating to the motion. Regardless, even if the motion was granted, Congress has not provided any exception for aliens who have been accorded rehabilitative treatment under state law. State rehabilitative actions that do not vacate a conviction on the merits are of no effect in determining whether an alien is considered convicted for immigration purposes. *Matter of Roldan*, 22 I&N Dec. 512, (BIA 1999).

It is concluded that the applicant is ineligible for TPS due to his record of two or more misdemeanor convictions. 8 C.F.R. § 244.4(a). Consequently, the director's decision to withdraw approval of the application for Temporary Protected Status will be affirmed.

Beyond the decision of the director, the applicant has not submitted an identity document bearing his photograph and/or fingerprint, as required under the provisions of 8 C.F.R. § 299.9(a)(1)(ii) and (iii). The applicant also has not submitted sufficient corroborative evidence to establish that he satisfies the continuous residence and continuous physical presence requirements described in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(b) and (c). The application must also be denied for these reasons.

The application will be denied for the above stated reasons, with each considered as an independent and alternative basis for denial. 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.