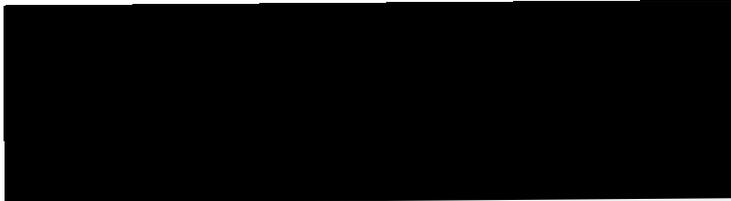




U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

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FILE: [REDACTED] OFFICE: CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER DATE: **AUG 14 2006**
[WAC 05 197 76754]

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.


for Robert P. Wiemann, Chief
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 record reveals that the applicant filed an initial TPS application on September 11, 2002, after the initial registration period had closed, under Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) receipt number WAC 03 036 50650. The director denied that application on April 5, 2004, after determining that the applicant had abandoned his application based on his failure to appear for fingerprinting on November 4, 2003. The applicant did not file a motion to reopen within 30 days from the date of the denial.

The applicant filed the current Form I-821, Application for Temporary Protected Status, on April 15, 2005, and indicated that he was re-registering for TPS.

The director denied the re-registration application because the applicant's initial TPS application had been denied and the applicant was not eligible to apply for re-registration for TPS.

On appeal, the applicant asserts that he never received the director's denial decision of the initial application. A review of the record of proceeding, however, shows that the request to appear for fingerprinting dated October 7, 2003, and the director's denial decision dated April 5, 2004, were mailed to the applicant's most recent address provided by the applicant at that time (932 S. Westmoreland Ave. #201, Los Angeles, CA 90006). There is no evidence in the record that the applicant had advised CIS of a change of address, nor is there evidence that the notices were returned to CIS as undeliverable.

If the applicant is filing an application as a re-registration, a previous grant of TPS must have been afforded the applicant, as only those individuals who are granted TPS must register annually. In addition, the applicant must continue to maintain the conditions of eligibility. 8 C.F.R. § 244.17.

In this case, the applicant has not previously been granted TPS. Therefore, he is not eligible to re-register for TPS. Consequently, the director's decision to deny the application will be affirmed.

It is noted that the director's decision does not explore the possibility that the applicant was attempting to file a late initial application for TPS instead of an annual re-registration.

Section 244(c) of the Act, and the related regulations in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2, provide that an alien who is a national of a foreign state designated by the Attorney General is eligible for temporary protected status 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 8 C.F.R. § 244.4; and
- (f)
 - (1) Registers for TPS 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 condition described in paragraph (f)(2) of this section.

The initial registration period for El Salvadorans was from March 9, 2001, through September 9, 2002. The record reveals that the applicant filed the current application with CIS on April 15, 2005.

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

The record indicates that the applicant filed Form I-589, Request for Asylum in the United States, on July 2, 1991. That application was pending during the initial registration period, when the applicant filed his initial TPS application on September 11, 2002, and when the applicant filed the current TPS application on April 15, 2005. The asylum application was subsequently denied on December 27, 2005, based on the applicant's failure to appear for a scheduled interview regarding the asylum application on September 10, 2005.

Accordingly, the applicant, in this case, has established that he is eligible for late initial registration because during the time of the initial registration period and during any subsequent extension of such designation, the applicant had an application for asylum that was pending. 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2)(ii).

It is noted, however, that the applicant furnished insufficient evidence to establish continuous residence in the United States since February 13, 2001, and continuous physical presence from March 9, 2001, to the date of filing the TPS applications. The applicant submitted only a copy of Form W-2, Wage and Tax Statement for the year 2001, and a copy of Form 1040, Income Tax Return, for the year 2001.

Consequently, the applicant has failed to establish that he has met the criteria for continuous residence in the United States since February 13, 2001, and continuous physical presence since March 9, 2001, as described in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(b) and (c).

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.