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**U.S. Citizenship
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FILE: [REDACTED] OFFICE: CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER DATE: **MAY 25 2006**
[WAC 01 163 53907]

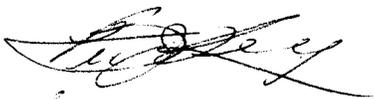
IN RE: Applicant: [REDACTED]

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 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 after determining that the applicant had failed to submit sufficient evidence to establish: (1) continuous residence in the United States since February 13, 2001; and (2) continuous physical presence from March 9, 2001, to the date of filing the application.

An appeal that is not filed within the time allowed must be rejected as improperly filed. In such a case, any filing fee 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 19, 2001, 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 21, 2002. 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 "office which made the unfavorable decision." 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 California Service Center on April 16, 2002.

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

It is noted that the applicant, on appeal, states that he does not have any more evidence to establish continuous residence and continuous physical presence in the United States during the requisite periods. The applicant has failed to overcome the grounds for the director's original denial.

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 appeal is rejected.