



U.S. Citizenship
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FILE: [REDACTED]
[LIN 01 265 51058]
[WAC 05 139 78673]

Office: CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER

Date: OCT 30 2006

IN RE: Applicant: [REDACTED]

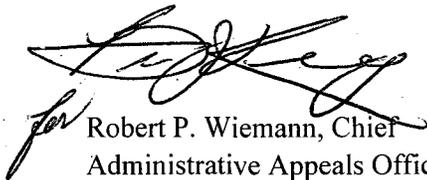
APPLICATION: Application for Temporary Protected Status under Section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1254

ON BEHALF OF APPLICANT:



INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office in your case. All documents have been returned to the California Service Center. Any further inquiry must be made to that office.


for Robert P. Wiemann, Chief
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The initial application was denied by the Director, Nebraska Service Center. A subsequent application for re-registration was denied by the Director, California Service Center, and is currently before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The initial application will be reopened, *sua sponte*, by the Chief, Administrative Appeals Office, and the case will be remanded for further consideration and action.

The applicant is a 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 applicant filed an initial application for TPS under receipt number LIN 01 265 51058. The director denied the initial application as abandoned on November 14, 2001, after determining that the applicant failed to submit requested evidence. However, the record of proceedings reveals that the director's decision was in error. Specifically, the record reveals that the director issued the request for additional evidence on October 15, 2001 and instructed the applicant that he had until January 15, 2001 to respond. However, on November 14, 2001, the director issued a decision denying the application because the applicant failed to respond to the request for additional evidence within 87 days. The applicant was actually only given approximately 30 days in which to respond.

The director's denial of the initial application will be withdrawn; the application will be remanded for a new decision. The director's denial of the application for re-registration or renewal is dependent upon the adjudication of the initial application. Since the initial application is being remanded, that decision will be remanded to the director for further adjudication. The director may request any evidence deemed necessary to assist with the determination of the applicant's eligibility for TPS offered to Salvadorans.

It is noted that the applicant was granted voluntary departure on June 22, 2000. It does not appear that the applicant left the United States. However, it presents the possibility that the applicant was deported and returned to the United States, without permission contrary to section 212(a)(9) of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

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 initial application is reopened, the director's decision is withdrawn, and the application is remanded for a new decision. The re-registration application is remanded for further action consistent with the director's new decision on the initial application.