



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

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FILE: [Redacted] Office: VERMONT SERVICE CENTER Date:
[EAC 04 026 51777 – I-821]
[EAC 04 211 50122 – Appeal]

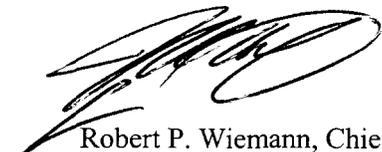
IN RE: Applicant: [Redacted]

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

ON BEHALF OF APPLICANT:
[Redacted]

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.


Robert P. Wiemann, Chief
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The application was denied by the Director, Vermont Service Center, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

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 record reveals that the applicant filed a first Form I-821, Application for Temporary Protected Status, on September 15, 2002, after the initial registration period had ended (EAC 03 020 50990 relates). On January 8, 2003, and February 10, 2003, the director requested the applicant to submit evidence to establish his eligibility for late registration. The director also requested the applicant to submit evidence of his qualifying continuous physical presence and continuous residence in the United States during the requisite time periods. In response, the applicant submitted documentation relating to his physical presence and residence in the United States. He did not submit any evidence to establish his eligibility for late registration.

On April 3, 2003, the director denied the applicant's first Form I-821 for failure to establish his eligibility for late registration. On May 6, 2003, the applicant filed an appeal from that decision. On appeal, the applicant claimed that the community service office that had been assisting him in the preparation of his application had not submitted the application in a timely manner. On February 18, 2004, the AAO dismissed the appeal. In dismissing the appeal, the AAO noted that the applicant also had not provided sufficient evidence to establish his qualifying continuous physical presence and continuous residence in the United States during the requisite time periods.

The applicant filed the current Form I-821 on November 3, 2003, and indicated that he was re-registering for TPS or renewing his temporary treatment benefits. The director denied the application on June 8, 2004, because the applicant's initial TPS application had been denied and the applicant was not eligible to apply for re-registration for TPS. The applicant filed the current appeal from that decision on July 9, 2004.

If the applicant is filing an application for 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. If the applicant is applying to renew his temporary treatment benefits, he must have a pending TPS application.

In this case, the applicant has not previously been granted TPS and he no longer has a pending application. Therefore, he is not eligible to re-register for TPS or to renew his temporary treatment benefits. 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 applicant may apply for TPS during the initial registration period, or:

- (f) (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.

The initial registration period for Salvadorans was from March 9, 2001, through September 9, 2002. As previously discussed, the applicant filed the current application with Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) on November 3, 2003.

To qualify for late registration, the applicant must provide evidence that during the initial registration period he or she 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 applicant has failed to provide any evidence to establish that this application should be accepted as a late initial registration under 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2). Therefore, the application also must be denied for this reason.

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.