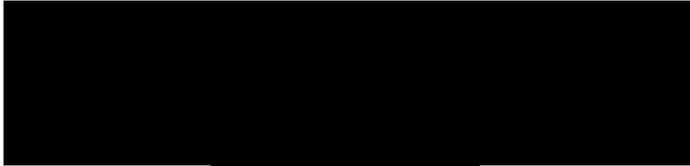




U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

**PUBLIC COPY**

identifying data deleted to  
prevent clearly unwarranted  
invasion of personal privacy



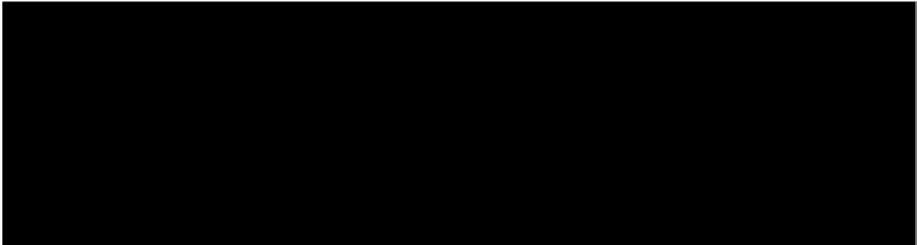
M1

FILE: [REDACTED]  
[WAC 05 210 78209

OFFICE: CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER DATE:

JAN 24 2007

IN RE: Applicant:

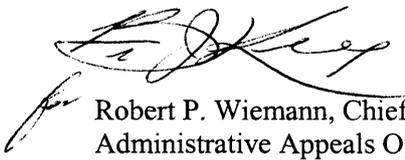


APPLICATION: Application for Temporary Protected Status under Section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1254

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, 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 indicates that the applicant filed a TPS application during the initial registration period on April 15, 2002, under Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) receipt number WAC 02 161 52927. The director denied that application on February 26, 2003, after determining that the applicant had abandoned his application based on his failure to appear for fingerprinting on May 15, 2002. 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 28, 2005, and indicated that he was re-registering for TPS.

The director denied the re-registration application on April 15, 2006, 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 was misrepresented by an attorney who took his money and purposely kept documents from him and that by the time documents were given to him, he has missed appointments and documents were received at the CIS office after the deadline. He states that because of the attorney's unprofessional handling of his case, his case was denied.

Any appeal or motion based upon a claim of ineffective assistance of counsel requires: (1) that the claim be supported by an affidavit of the allegedly aggrieved respondent setting forth in detail the agreement that was entered into with counsel with respect to the actions to be taken and what representations counsel did or did not make to the respondent in this regard; (2) that counsel whose integrity or competence is being impugned be informed of the allegations leveled against him and be given an opportunity to respond; and (3) that the appeal or motion reflect whether a complaint has been filed with appropriate disciplinary authorities with respect to any violation of counsel's ethical or legal responsibilities, and if not, why not. *Matter of Lozada*, 19 I&N Dec. 637 (BIA 1988), *aff'd*, 857 F.2d 10 (1st Cir. 1988). The applicant has failed to submit evidence confirming that counsel has been notified of the incompetency claim, or evidence demonstrating that a complaint, based upon the allegations, has been filed with the appropriate disciplinary authorities.

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 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 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 28, 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 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.

However, the provisions of TPS do not allow approval of any application filed by an individual convicted of a felony or two or more misdemeanors. Section 244(c)(2)(B)(i) of the Act and 8 C.F.R. § 244.4(a).

The record indicates that the applicant subsequently was fingerprinted on June 15, 2006, based on his re-registration application. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) fingerprint results report reveals the following:

- (1) On April 19, 1989, in Los Angeles, California, the applicant (name used: [REDACTED]) was arrested for possession of marijuana for sale. The final court disposition of this arrest is not included in the record of proceeding.

- (2) On February 13, 2001, in Las Vegas, Nevada, the applicant (name used: [REDACTED]) was arrested for battery with deadly weapon. The final court disposition of this arrest is not included in the record of proceeding.
- (3) The applicant was placed in removal proceedings on March 5, 2001, in Las Vegas, Nevada. The record indicates that on July 19, 2001, a Warrant of Removal/Deportation, Form I-205, was issued based on a final order of removal by an immigration judge on July 8, 2001.

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.