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U.S. Department of Homeland Security
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U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

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[REDACTED]

FILE:

[REDACTED]
[WAC 02 234 54482]

Office: VERMONT SERVICE CENTER

Date **AUG 22 2008**

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 office that originally decided your case. Any further inquiry must be made to that office.

Robert P. Wiemann, Chief
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The applicant's Temporary Protected Status was withdrawn by the Director, Vermont Service Center. The application 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 director determined that the applicant had been convicted of two misdemeanors in the United States. The director, therefore, withdrew the applicant's TPS.

On appeal, counsel states that the director erred in withdrawing the applicant's TPS.

The director may withdraw the status of an alien granted Temporary Protected Status under section 244 of the Act at any time if it is determined that the alien was not in fact eligible at the time such status was granted, or at any time thereafter becomes ineligible for such status. 8 C.F.R. § 244.14(a)(1).

Section 244(c) of the Act, and the related regulations in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2, provide that an applicant 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 section 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:....

Section 244(c) ALIENS ELIGIBLE FOR TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS.-

(2) ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS.-

(B) ALIENS INELIGIBLE. - An alien shall not be eligible for temporary protected status under this section if the Attorney General finds that-

- (i) the alien has been convicted of any felony or 2 misdemeanors committed in the United States,....

(i) the alien has been convicted of any felony or 2 misdemeanors committed in the United States,....

"Misdemeanor" means a crime committed in the United States, either (1) punishable by imprisonment for a term of one year or less, regardless of the term such alien actually served, if any, or (2) a crime treated as a misdemeanor under the term "felony" of this section. For purposes of this definition, any crime punishable by imprisonment for a maximum term of five days or less shall not be considered a misdemeanor. 8 C.F.R. § 244.1.

The record reveals that on November 25, 2005, the Los Angeles Police Department arrested the applicant for "DUI/Drug in Veh", ".08% More Wght Alchl Drive Veh", "Hit and Run/Property Damage", "Unlicensed Driver", and "Reckless Driving/No Injury."

Pursuant to a letter dated July 28, 2006, the applicant was requested to submit the final court disposition for each of the charges detailed above. In response, the applicant provided documentation showing that on March 2, 2006, the applicant was found guilty of "Unlicensed Driver" and "Reckless Driving/No Injury", both misdemeanors.

On appeal, counsel for the applicant requests additional time in order to provide additional evidence. According to counsel, the applicant is in the process of obtaining post-conviction relief. To date, there has been no further correspondence from the applicant or counsel. Therefore, the record must be considered complete.

The applicant is ineligible for temporary protected status because of her two misdemeanor convictions. 8 C.F.R. § 244.4(a).

The burden of proof is upon the applicant to establish that he or she meets the above requirements. The applicant's statement, on appeal, does not overcome the adverse evidence in the record. Consequently, the director's decision to withdraw the applicant's temporary protected status will be affirmed.

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.