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U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
20 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Rm. 3000  
Washington, DC 20529



U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

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[REDACTED]

FILE:

[REDACTED]

Office: VERMONT SERVICE CENTER

Date: JAN 29 2008

[SRC 01 224 68802]  
[EAC 06 285 71113]

[REDACTED]

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 Vermont Service Center. 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**DISCUSSION:** The applicant's Temporary Protected Status was withdrawn and an application for re-registration was simultaneously denied by the Director, Vermont Service Center. The matter is now before the Administrative Appeals Office on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The applicant claims to be 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 the director denied the re-registration application as it was determined that the applicant had failed to submit the requested court records pertaining to his criminal history. The director withdrew the applicant's TPS pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 244.14(a)(3) because the applicant had failed to successfully re-register. However, the director should have withdrawn TPS pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 244.14(a)(1) because the applicant, by failing to provide requested court records necessary for the adjudication of his application, had become ineligible for TPS.

On appeal, counsel does not provide any evidence to overcome the director's findings. He merely asserts the applicant believes that one charge has been dismissed and requests an extension of 90 days in which to submit a brief and/or evidence. Ten months later, however, no additional correspondence has been presented by counsel or the applicant.

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 is eligible for TPS only if such alien establishes that he or she:

- (a) Is a national of a 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 Temporary Protected Status 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:
    - (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.

An alien shall not be eligible for temporary protected status under this section if the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security finds that the alien has been convicted of any felony or two or more misdemeanors committed in the United States. See Section 244(c)(2)(B)(i) of the Act and 8 C.F.R. § 244.4(a).

"Felony" means a crime committed in the United States punishable by imprisonment for a term of more than one year, regardless of the term actually served, if any. There is an exception when the offense is defined by the state as a misdemeanor and the sentence actually imposed is one year or less, regardless of the term actually served. Under this exception, for purposes of 8 C.F.R. § 244 of the Act, the crime shall be treated as a misdemeanor. 8 C.F.R. § 244.1.

"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 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).

The FBI record dated April 7, 2003, reveals that on July 27, 2002, the applicant was arrested by the Houston Police Department in Texas for driving while intoxicated.

On October 7, 2003, the applicant was requested to submit certified court dispositions for all arrests including the arrest mentioned above. The applicant, in response, submitted the court disposition for his July 27, 2002 arrests, which reflects that on August 23, 2002, the applicant was convicted of driving while intoxicated, a Class B misdemeanor. The applicant was sentenced to serve ten days in the Harris County Jail and ordered to pay a fine. Cause no. [REDACTED]

The FBI record dated March 27, 2006, revealed an additional arrest, namely on July 4, 2005, by the Sheriff's Office in Houston, Texas for driving while intoxicated, 2<sup>nd</sup> offense.

Pursuant to a notice September 7, 2006, the applicant was requested to submit the final court disposition for his arrest on July 4, 2005. In response, the applicant, however, failed to response to the notice.

The director determined that the applicant had failed to submit evidence necessary for the proper adjudication of the application and withdrew the approval of the applicant's TPS and denied the re-registration application on February 20, 2007.

On appeal, counsel asserts that the applicant believes that one charge has been dismissed. Ten months later, however, counsel has not provided any evidence to support his assertion. The assertion of counsel is not supported by any credible evidence. The assertion of counsel does not constitute evidence. *Matter of Laureano*, 19 I&N Dec. 1, 3 (BIA 1983); *Matter of Obaigbena*, 19 I&N Dec. 533, 534 (BIA 1988); *Matter of Ramirez-Sanchez*, 17 I&N Dec. 503, 506 (BIA 1980).

The applicant has failed to provide any evidence revealing the final court disposition of his arrest on July 4, 2005, detailed above. The applicant is ineligible for TPS because of his failure to provide information necessary for the adjudication of his application. 8 C.F.R. § 244.9(a). Consequently, the director's decision to withdraw TPS and denied the re-registration application will be affirmed.

It is noted that on December 1, 2000, a Notice to Appear, Form I-862, was issued. However, on July 13, 2001, the applicant's case was administratively closed because of a finding that he had a pending TPS application.

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 from the withdrawal of the TPS application and denial of the re-registration application is dismissed.