U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Citizenship and Immigration Services

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ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS OFFICE
CIS, AAO, 20 Mass, 3/F
425 I Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20536

File: [redacted] Office: Texas Service Center Date: JAN 15 2004

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: Self-represented

INSTRUCTIONS:
This is the decision 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.

for Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

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

The applicant is a native and citizen of Honduras who indicated on her application that she entered the United States on October 1, 1998, without a lawful admission or parole. The director denied the application for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1254, because the applicant failed to establish she: 1) had continuously resided in the United States since February 13, 2001; 2) had been continuously physically present in the United States since March 9, 2001; and 3) was eligible for late registration.

8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(B) states:

> *Untimely appeal--(1) Rejection without refund of filing fee.* An appeal which is not filed within the time allowed must be rejected as improperly filed. In such a case, any filing fee the Bureau has accepted will not be refunded.
>
> *Untimely appeal--(2) Untimely appeal treated as motion.* If an untimely appeal meets the requirements of a motion to reopen as described in section 103.5(a)(2) of this part or a motion to reconsider as described in section 103.5(a)(3) of this part, the appeal must be treated as a motion, and a decision must be made on the merits of the case.

The applicant's statement, on appeal, does not meet the requirements of a motion.

Whenever a person has the right or is required to do some act within a prescribed period after the service of a notice upon him and the notice is served by mail, three days shall be added to the prescribed period. Service by mail is complete upon mailing. 8 C.F.R. § 103.5a(b).

The decision, dated December 11, 2002, clearly advised the applicant that any appeal must be filed within thirty days. Coupled with three days for mailing the appeal, in this case, should have been filed on or before January 13, 2003. The Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal is very clear in indicating that the appeal is <u>not</u> to be sent directly to the Administrative Appeals Office. The applicant, nevertheless, sent her appeal to the Administrative Appeals Office. The appeal is not considered properly received until it is received by the Service Center which rendered the unfavorable decision. The appeal was properly received at the respective Service Center on January 27, 2003.

Based upon the applicant's failure to file a timely appeal, the appeal will be rejected.

ORDER: The appeal is rejected.