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U.S. Department of Homeland Security
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Washington, DC 20536

U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

[redacted]

FILE: [redacted] Office: VERMONT SERVICE CENTER Date: MAY 03 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 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, Director
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 native and citizen of Honduras 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 failed to submit evidence to establish that he was eligible for late initial registration. The director, therefore, denied the application.

On appeal, the applicant states that his father was paroled into the United States on September 11, 2002, and that he is in the process of adjusting his status. He further states and that he may qualify under his father's pending adjustment, and that he is submitting a copy of his father's parole as evidence.

The applicant appears to be represented; however, the record does not contain a Form G-28, Notice of Entry of Appearance as Attorney or Representative. Therefore, the applicant will be considered to be self-represented.

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

(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 condition described in paragraph (f)(2) of this section.

The term *continuously resided* as used in 8 C.F.R. § 244.1 means residing in the United States for the entire period specified in the regulations and since December 30, 1998. An alien shall not be considered to have failed to maintain continuous residence in the United States by reason of a brief, casual, and innocent absence as defined within this section or due merely to a brief temporary trip abroad required by emergency or extenuating circumstances outside the control of the alien.

The term *continuously physically present* as used in 8 C.F.R. § 244.1 means actual physical presence in the United States for the entire period specified in the regulations and since January 5, 1999. An alien shall not be considered to have failed to maintain continuous physical presence in the United States by virtue of brief, casual, and innocent absences as defined within this section.

As stated in 8 C.F.R. § 244.1, "register" means "to properly file, with the director, a completed application, with proper fee, for Temporary Protected Status during the registration period designated under section 244(b) of the Act."

The initial registration period for Hondurans was from January 5, 1999, through August 20, 1999. The record reflects that the applicant filed his TPS application on July 29, 2002.

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 Citizenship and Immigration Services (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 record of proceeding confirms that the applicant filed his application after the initial registration period had closed. To qualify for late registration, the applicant must provide evidence that during the initial registration period from January 5, 1999 through August 20, 1999, he fell within the provisions described in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2) (listed above). If the qualifying condition or application has expired or been terminated, the individual must file within a 60-day period immediately following the expiration or termination of the qualifying condition in order to be considered for late initial registration. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(g).

The director noted that in response to his request for additional evidence on December 12, 2002, the applicant failed to submit any evidence to show that he qualified under one of the four eligibility categories listed in his request for evidence and as set forth in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2).

The applicant, on appeal, states that he may be eligible for TPS based on his father's pending adjustment of status. Spouses and children (of aliens who applied for TPS under the initial designation) who did not initially apply for TPS although they are independently eligible for TPS, qualify for late registration if they are physically present in the United States and have resided in the United States prior to December 30, 1998. Furthermore, the applicant must provide evidence that, at the time of the initial registration period of January 5, 1999 through August 20, 1999, he or she fell within the provisions described in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2).

The record reflects that the applicant was born on November 11, 1971. Section 101(b)(1) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1101(b)(1) defines the term "child" to mean an unmarried person under 21 years of age. Since the applicant

was over the age of 21 years during the initial registration period, he does not meet the definition of "child" as defined in section 101(b)(1) of the Act. Therefore, the fact that the applicant's father was granted TPS has no bearing on the applicant's eligibility for late registration.

The applicant has failed to establish that he has met any of the criteria for late registration described in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2), and to overcome the findings of the director. Consequently, the director's conclusion that the applicant had failed to establish his eligibility for late registration will be affirmed.

The burden of proof is upon the applicant to establish that he 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.