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U.S. Citizenship
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Services

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FILE:



Office: CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER

Date: **DEC 14 2005**

IN RE:

Applicant:



APPLICATION:

Application for Status as a Temporary Resident pursuant to Section 210 of the
Immigration and Nationality Act, as amended, 8 U.S.C. § 1160

ON BEHALF OF APPLICANT:

SELF-REPRESENTED

INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office in your case. The file has been returned to the service center that processed your case. If your appeal was sustained, or if your case was remanded for further action, you will be contacted. If your appeal was dismissed, you no longer have a case pending before this office, and you are not entitled to file a motion to reopen or reconsider your case.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert P. Wiemann".

Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The application for temporary resident status as a special agricultural worker was denied by the Director, Western Service Center, remanded by the Legalization Appeals Unit (LAU), now the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO), and denied again by the Director, California Service Center. The matter is now before the AAO on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The directors denied the application because the applicant failed to establish the performance of at least 90 man-days of qualifying agricultural employment during the eligibility period. This decision was based on adverse information acquired by the Service relating to the applicant's claim of employment for [REDACTED]

On appeal from the initial denial, the applicant reaffirmed his claimed employment. The applicant submitted an additional employment letter.

In order to be eligible for temporary resident status as a special agricultural worker, an alien must have engaged in qualifying agricultural employment for at least 90 man-days during the twelve-month period ending May 1, 1986, and must be otherwise admissible under section 210(c) of the Act and not ineligible under 8 C.F.R. § 210.3(d). 8 C.F.R. § 210.3(a). An applicant has the burden of proving the above by a preponderance of the evidence. 8 C.F.R. § 210.3(b).

On the Form I-700 application, the applicant claimed 233 man-days employment for Alvarez Farm Labor in Ventura, California from October 1985 to September 1986.

In support of the claim, the applicant submitted a Form I-705 affidavit and a separate employment letter, both purportedly signed by [REDACTED]. In addition, the applicant submitted a 1986 Form W-2 Wage and Tax Statement and two residence affidavits.

In the course of attempting to verify the applicant's claimed employment, the Service acquired information which cast doubt on the credibility of the applicant's documentation. The signatures on the applicant's supporting documents are visibly and significantly different from authentic exemplars obtained by the Service.

On October 18, 1991, the applicant was advised in writing of the adverse information obtained by the Service, and of the Service's intent to deny the application. The applicant was granted thirty days to respond. The record does not contain a response to the notice.

The director concluded the applicant had not overcome the derogatory evidence, and denied the application. On appeal, the applicant reaffirmed his claimed employment. The applicant submitted a photocopied letter, several generations removed from the original, on which information about the applicant was typed on the already existing letter. Although the letter indicates that the applicant worked for [REDACTED] based on the fact that the applicant's name was later added to the letter, it cannot be concluded that the letter was originally intended for the applicant.

Subsequently, the case was remanded, the LAU having concluded that the difference in appearance of the signatures could not be determined because the examples of [REDACTED] signature used for the comparison were not contained in the record.

On April 13, 2001, the application was reopened and the applicant was informed that the signatures on his supporting documents were found by forensic analysis not to match genuine exemplars obtained by the Service. The applicant did not respond to the notice.

Thereafter, the director concluded the applicant had not overcome the derogatory evidence, and denied the application on October 4, 2004. The record contains no further response from the applicant.

Generally, the inference to be drawn from the documentation provided shall depend on the extent of the documentation, its credibility, and amenability to verification. 8 C.F.R. § 210.3(b)(1). Evidence submitted by an applicant will have its sufficiency judged according to its probative value and credibility. 8 C.F.R. § 210.3(b)(2). Personal testimony by an applicant which is not corroborated, in whole or in part, by other credible evidence (including testimony by persons other than the applicant) will not serve to meet an applicant's burden of proof. 8 C.F.R. § 210.3(b)(3).

There is no mandatory type of documentation required with respect to the applicant's burden of proof; however, the documentation must be credible. All documents submitted must have an appearance of reliability, i.e., if the documents appear to have been forged, or otherwise deceitfully created or obtained, the documents are not credible. *United Farm Workers (AFL-CIO) v. INS, Civil No. S-87-1064-JFM (E.D. Cal.)*.

The signature discrepancy noted by the director calls into question the origin and authenticity of the applicant's documentation. The applicant has not overcome this derogatory evidence. Therefore, the documentary evidence submitted by the applicant cannot be considered as having any probative value or evidentiary weight.

The applicant has failed to credibly establish the performance of at least 90 man-days of qualifying agricultural employment during the twelve-month statutory period ending May 1, 1986. Consequently, the applicant is ineligible for adjustment to temporary resident status as a special agricultural worker.

ORDER: The appeal is dismissed. This decision constitutes a final notice of ineligibility.