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U.S. Department of Homeland Security
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Washington, DC 20529



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

MI

FILE:

Office: Texas Service Center

Date: FEB 01 2005

IN RE: Applicant:

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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert P. Wiemann".

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 (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be rejected.

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 denied the application because the applicant failed to establish she had continuously resided in the United States since February 13, 2001, and been continuously physically present in the United States since March 9, 2001.

An appeal that is not filed within the time allowed must be rejected as improperly filed. In such a case, any filing fee accepted will not be refunded. 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(B)(1).

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 director's decision of denial, dated December 5, 2003, clearly advised the applicant that any appeal must be properly filed within thirty days after service of the decision. 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(i). Coupled with three days for mailing, the appeal, in this case, should have been filed on or before January 7, 2004. The appeal was received at the Texas Service Center on February 4, 2004.

It is noted that the director stated in the denial notice that the applicant had indicated on the TPS application that she entered the United States in May 2001, however, the applicant in fact stated she entered the United States in December 2001.

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

Beyond the decision of the director, the applicant has not established her eligibility for late registration under 8 C.F.R. § 244(f)(2). The initial registration period for El Salvadorans was from March 9, 2001, through September 9, 2002. Therefore, the application must also be denied for this reason.

An alien applying for TPS 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 rejected.