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U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

MI



FILE:



Office: CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER

Date: JUN 23 2005

[WAC 03 112 53786]

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.

Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The application was denied by the Director, California 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 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 he was eligible for late registration.

On appeal, the applicant submits a statement and copies of evidence previously submitted in support of the application.

Section 244(c) of the Act, and the related regulations in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2, provide that an applicant is eligible for TPS 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 § 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.
- (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 conditions described in paragraph (f)(2) of this section.

Persons applying for TPS offered to El Salvadorans must demonstrate continuous residence in the United States since February 13, 2001, and continuous physical presence since March 9, 2001. The initial registration period for Salvadorans was from March 9, 2001, through September 9, 2002. The record reveals that the applicant filed his initial application with Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) on February 25, 2003.

To qualify for late registration, the applicant must provide evidence that during the initial registration period, he or she was either in a valid immigration status, had an application pending for relief from removal, was a parolee, or was the spouse or child of an alien currently eligible to be a TPS registrant, and had filed an application for late registration within 60 days of the expiration or termination of the conditions described in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2).

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 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 director determined that the applicant had failed to establish he was eligible for late registration and denied the application on April 6, 2004.

On appeal, the applicant states that he is submitting evidence in an attempt to establish his qualifying continuous residence and continuous physical presence in the United States during the requisite time periods; however, the applicant does not submit any evidence to establish his eligibility for late initial registration.

The record contains an undated "fill-in-the-blank" letter from [REDACTED] CIS registration number [REDACTED] stating that she would like to "include the name: of her husband," [REDACTED] as a "dependent" in her application for TPS. The record also contains a purported Salvadoran marriage certificate with English translation indicating that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were married in [REDACTED] El Salvador, on December 10, 1999.

CIS records indicate that [REDACTED] registration number [REDACTED] filed an application for TPS on April 12, 2002. The application was approved on December 17, 2003. However, CIS records reveal that [REDACTED] indicated she was **single** on her TPS application. The applicant indicated on his initial Form I-821, Application for Temporary Protected Status, and on his initial Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization, that he is **married**; however, he indicated on the Form I-765 that he filed on August 29, 2003 that

he is **single**. Furthermore, the photocopy of the applicant's national identity document (cedula) contained in the record of proceeding, which was issued on January 10, 2000, indicates that the applicant is single (soltero). If the applicant was married on December 10, 1999, as indicated on the Salvadoran marriage certificate and English translation provided by the applicant, his cedula should also indicate that he is married. Additionally, the local Salvadoran official who purportedly signed the applicant's Salvadoran birth certificate, [REDACTED] certified on June 5, 1992, that the marriage information reflected on the marriage certificate was a correct copy of the official marriage records of the town of [REDACTED]. It is not clear how [REDACTED] could certify the marriage information as accurate on June 5, 1992, when the applicant was not married until December 10, 1999. The applicant has not provided any explanation for these discrepancies. Doubt cast on any aspect of the applicant's proof may lead to a reevaluation of the reliability and sufficiency of the remaining evidence offered in support of the visa petition. Further, it is incumbent on the applicant to resolve any inconsistencies in the record by independent objective evidence, and attempts to explain or reconcile such inconsistencies, absent competent objective evidence pointing to where the truth lies, will not suffice. *Matter of Ho*, 19 I&N Dec. 582. (Comm. 1988).

Moreover, pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 103.2(b)(3), any document containing foreign language submitted to CIS must be accompanied by a full English language translation that the translator has certified as complete and accurate, and by the translator's certification that he or she is competent to translate from the foreign language into English. The English translations submitted by the applicant have not been signed by the translator or certified as accurate and complete or certifying that the translator is competent to translate from Spanish to English. Therefore, these translations will not be accepted as valid translations. Since the translations cannot be accepted as valid translations, the Spanish language documents themselves cannot be accepted without proper English translation. In view of the foregoing, it is concluded that the applicant has not provided sufficient credible evidence to establish that he qualifies for late initial registration as the spouse of an applicant who was eligible to be a TPS registrant during the initial registration period. The applicant has not submitted any evidence to establish that he has met any of the other criteria for late registration described in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2). Consequently, the director's decision to deny the application for temporary protected status will be affirmed.

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 is dismissed.