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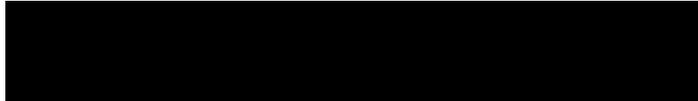
Office: TEXAS SERVICE CENTER

Date:

JUN 24 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.

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 dismissed.

The applicant is stated to be a native and citizen of Nicaragua who is applying for 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 that she was eligible for late registration. The director noted that the applicant had only submitted evidence for the year 1999 and that she had failed to submit a copy of her current driver's license and original birth certificate with English translation as requested.

On appeal the applicant states:

The reason of this letter is to ask if you can give me the opportunity to accept my case and give me the opportunity to be legal in this country in which with a lot of difficulty I have lived here without having the opportunity of being employed and also given the chance to pay my taxes. Please take a look at my case and review it and see that I have answered all the documents on time and that I willing to demonstrate to you that I am very interested in being legal in this country and to give myself and my family a better life and future. I am willing to prove that I have been living in this country since 1998. Please give me the opportunity to be legal and pay my taxes and give my family a better life and future. I really would like for you to take a look at my case and let me show you that I would like another opportunity to continue my case, because I am very interested in my case. Please give me one more chance to be legal and to have a better job and life and also give my family a better future.

The applicant also provides additional documentation in support of her claim.

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

Persons applying for TPS offered to Nicaraguans must demonstrate that they have continuously resided in the United States since December 30, 1998, and that they have been continuously physically present since January 5, 1999. The initial registration period for Nicaraguans was from January 5, 1999, through August 20, 1999. The record shows that the applicant filed her application with Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS), on March 26, 2004.

To qualify for late registration, the applicant must provide evidence that during the initial registration period, 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 she 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 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 her burden of proof the applicant must provide supporting documentary evidence of eligibility apart from her own statements. 8 C.F.R. § 244.9(b).

On April 19, 2004, the applicant was requested to submit residence and physical presence documentation and evidence establishing her eligibility for late registration as set forth in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2). The director determined that the applicant had failed to establish she was eligible for late registration and denied the application on June 3, 2004.

It is noted that on her TPS application, the applicant indicates that she entered the United States on April 10, 1998 as an F-1 nonimmigrant student but does not indicate when that student status terminated. The record

contains no documentary evidence to show that the applicant remained in nonimmigrant student status since entry into the United States in 1997, or if and when that status terminated. To be eligible to apply under the late initial registration provisions of TPS, the applicant must demonstrate that she filed for TPS no later than 60 days from the termination of her status as a nonimmigrant student. She has not done so.

On appeal, the applicant submitted evidence in an attempt to establish her qualifying residence and physical presence in the United States. However, this evidence does not mitigate the applicant's failure to file her Application for Temporary Protected Status within the initial registration period. The applicant has not submitted any evidence to establish that she has met any of the criteria for late registration described in the regulations at 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2). Consequently, the director's decision to deny the application for TPS is affirmed for this reason.

The regulations at 8 C.F.R. § 244.9, state that each application for TPS must be accompanied by evidence of the applicant's identity and nationality.

In this case, the director objected that the applicant had not submitted her driver's license and her original birth certificate with an English translation. The applicant has not submitted these documents on appeal. Applicants must submit all documentation as requested by CIS. If any required documentation is unavailable, an affidavit or other credible evidence may be submitted. The applicant has not provided her driver's license and original birth certificate or documentation as to their unavailability as required by the regulations at 8 C.F.R. § 244.9(a). It is noted that the applicant has established her identity and nationality by submitting a copy of her Nicaraguan national identity card.

Beyond the decision of the director, the applicant has provided insufficient evidence to establish her continuous residence and continuous physical presence during the required time period. Therefore the application shall be denied for these additional reasons.

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.