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U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services  
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U.S. Citizenship  
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FILE: [REDACTED]  
MSC 06 089 15166

Office: LOS ANGELES

Date: **JUN 02 2009**

IN RE: Applicant: [REDACTED]

APPLICATION: Application for Status as a Temporary Resident pursuant to Section 245A of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as amended, 8 U.S.C. § 1255a

ON BEHALF OF APPLICANT:

SELF-REPRESENTED

INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office in your case. If your appeal was dismissed or rejected, all documents have been returned to the National Benefits Center. 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. If your appeal was sustained or remanded for further action, you will be contacted.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John F. Grissom".

John F. Grissom  
Acting Chief, Administrative Appeals Office

**DISCUSSION:** The application for temporary resident status pursuant to the terms of the settlement agreements reached in *Catholic Social Services, Inc., et al., v. Ridge, et al.*, CIV. NO. S-86-1343-LKK (E.D. Cal) January 23, 2004, and *Felicity Mary Newman, et al., v. United States Immigration and Citizenship Services, et al.*, CIV. NO. 87-4757-WDK (C.D. Cal) February 17, 2004 (CSS/Newman Settlement Agreements), was denied by the Director, Los Angeles. The decision is now before the Administrative Appeals Office on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The applicant submitted a Form I-687, Application for Status as a Temporary Resident under Section 245A of the Immigration and Nationality Act, and a Form I-687 Supplement, CSS/Newman (LULAC) Class Membership Worksheet. The director denied the application because the applicant did not establish that he continuously resided in the United States for the duration of the requisite period.

On appeal, the applicant states that he was out of the United States for only eleven days from June 21 to July 2, 1987. He further states that although his employment letter lacked a telephone number, the address of the employer was written on it. The applicant indicates that he does not have any other documents to show as evidence that "I entered to USA on or before 02-07-1981."

An applicant for temporary resident status must establish entry into the United States before January 1, 1982, and continuous residence in the United States in an unlawful status since such date and through the date the application is filed. Section 245A(a)(2) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1255a(a)(2). The applicant must also establish that he or she has been continuously physically present in the United States since November 6, 1986. Section 245A(a)(3) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1255a(a)(3). The regulations clarify that the applicant must have been physically present in the United States from November 6, 1986 until the date of filing the application. 8 C.F.R. § 245a.2(b)(1).

For purposes of establishing residence and physical presence under the CSS/Newman Settlement Agreements, the term "until the date of filing" in 8 C.F.R. § 245a.2(b) means until the date the applicant attempted to file a completed Form I-687 application and fee or was caused not to timely file during the original legalization application period of May 5, 1987 to May 4, 1988. CSS Settlement Agreement paragraph 11 at page 6; Newman Settlement Agreement paragraph 11 at page 10.

The applicant has the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that he or she has resided in the United States for the requisite period, is admissible to the United States under the provisions of section 245A of the Act, and is otherwise eligible for adjustment of status. 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. § 245a.2(d)(5).

The "preponderance of the evidence" standard requires that the evidence demonstrate that the applicant's claim is "probably true," where the determination of "truth" is made based on the factual circumstances of each individual case. *Matter of E-M-*, 20 I&N Dec. 77, 79-80 (Comm. 1989). In evaluating the evidence, *Matter of E-M-* also stated that "[t]ruth is to be determined

not by the quantity of evidence alone but by its quality.” *Id.* Thus, in adjudicating the application pursuant to the preponderance of the evidence standard, the director must examine the evidence for relevance, probative value, and credibility, within the context of the totality of the evidence, to determine whether the facts to be proven are probably true.

Even if the director has some doubt as to the truth, if the applicant submits relevant, probative, and credible evidence that leads the director to believe that the claim is “probably true” or “more likely than not,” the applicant has satisfied the standard of proof. *See U.S. v. Cardozo-Fonseca*, 480 U.S. 421, 431 (1987) (defining “more likely than not” as a greater than 50 percent probability of something occurring). If the director can articulate a material doubt, it is appropriate for the director to either request additional evidence or, if that doubt leads the director to believe that the claim is probably not true, deny the application.

The pertinent evidence in the record is described below.

1. Affidavit of Witness statements from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who state they know the applicant has resided in the United States since 1981.
2. An Affidavit of Witness statement from [REDACTED] who states he knows the applicant has resided in the United States since January 1, 1982.
3. An Affidavit of Witness statement from [REDACTED] who states he knows the applicant resided in La Puente, California, from 1982 to 1984, in West Covina, California, from 1984 to 1986 and in La Puente, California, from 1986 to 1993.
4. The applicant’s rent receipt for a property at “[REDACTED]” from March 1, 1981 to April 1, 1981.
5. A letter from [REDACTED], owner or manager of a property at [REDACTED] in Huntington Park, California, who states the applicant was his tenant from March 1981 to December 1989.
6. A letter from [REDACTED] of Grecian Industries in Westminster, California, who states that the applicant was an employee of the firm from February 28, 1981 to August 6, 1989.

The Affidavit of Witness statements from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] have been reviewed (Items # 1 and # 2 above). These documents are not sufficiently probative to establish the applicant’s continuous residence in the United States from January 1, 1982 through the requisite time period.

On his current Form I-687 filed on December 28, 2005, the applicant stated that he resided at 163 [REDACTED] in La Puente, California, from February 1981 to October 1988. However, the Affidavit of Witness from [REDACTED] (Item # 3) specifies that he lived in West Covina,

California, from 1984 to 1986. Also the applicant's rent receipt (Item # 4), the letter from [REDACTED] (Item # 5), as well as his Form I-687 signed on October 23, 1995, specify that he lived in Huntington Park, California, from March 1981 to December 1989. Additionally, the employment verification letter from [REDACTED] (Item # 6) does not provide the applicant's address at the time of employment and identify the location of company records and state whether such records are accessible or in the alternative state the reason why such records are unavailable as is required of employment letters by 8 C.F.R. § 245a.2(d)(3)(i).

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 application. Further, the applicant must resolve any inconsistencies in the record with competent, independent, objective evidence. Attempts to explain or reconcile such inconsistencies, absent competent objective evidence sufficient to demonstrate where the truth, in fact, lies, will not suffice. *Matter of Ho*, 19 I&N Dec. 582, 591-92 (BIA 1988). These inconsistencies cast doubt not only on the evidence containing the conflicts, but on all of the applicant's evidence and all of his assertions.

The issue in this proceeding is whether the applicant has furnished sufficient credible evidence to demonstrate entry into the United States prior to January 1, 1982, and continuous residence during the requisite period. The applicant's asserted employment and residential histories on his Form I-687 are accompanied by unacceptable and inconsistent evidence.

The evidence must be evaluated not by the quantity of evidence alone but by its quality. Pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 245a.2(d)(5), the inference to be drawn from the documentation provided shall depend on the extent of the documentation, its credibility, and its amenability to verification. Given the absence of credible supporting documentation, the applicant has failed to meet his burden of proof and failed to establish continuous residence in an unlawful status in the United States during the requisite period. The applicant is, therefore, ineligible for temporary resident status under section 245A of the Act. The application was correctly denied on this basis, which has not been overcome on appeal. Consequently, the director's decision to deny the application is affirmed.

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