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U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services  
Administrative Appeals Office (AAO)  
20 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., MS 2090  
Washington, DC 20529-2090



U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

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DATE: **JUL 20 2011**

Office: NEW YORK

FILE: 

IN RE: Applicant: 

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.

  
Perry Rhew  
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, New York. The matter is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The record indicates that the applicant filed a Form I-687 Application for Temporary Resident Status on September 13, 2005. On July 19, 2006, the director denied the application noting that the applicant failed to appear for scheduled fingerprinting appointment. Thus, the director indicated that the application was abandoned.

On October 6, 2010, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) informed the applicant that, pursuant to a recent court order, applications for temporary resident status may not be denied based on abandonment. The applicant was informed that he was entitled to file an appeal with the AAO which must be adjudicated on the merits.

On appeal, the applicant stated that he was ill and was advised by his doctor to stay in bed. The applicant also submitted a letter from Dr. [REDACTED] stating that the applicant was under his care from March 25, 2006 to March 31, 2006 and that he was treated for hypertension and abdominal pain. The reason why the applicant failed to appear for the interview is not relevant to the outcome of this proceeding.

The AAO conducts appellate review on a *de novo* basis. See *Soltane v. DOJ*, 381 F.3d 143, 145 (3d Cir. 2004). Following *de novo* review, the AAO found that that the director's basis for denial of the Form I-687 was in error. However, the AAO identified alternative grounds for denial of the application. Specifically, the AAO noted that the applicant failed to submit sufficient evidence in support of his application.

In an attempt to establish continuous unlawful residence since before January 1, 1982 through the end of the relevant period, the applicant provided written statements from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Their statements are not probative of either the applicant's entrance to the United States or the applicant's continuous residence throughout the relevant period. Further, their statements do not indicate how they date their initial meeting with the applicant, how frequently they had contact with the applicant, or how they have personal knowledge of the applicant's presence in the United States.

In his affidavit, Mr. [REDACTED] states that he was the applicant's roommate. However, Mr. [REDACTED] does not provide the address that he lived in when he and the applicant were roommates.

The affidavits all contain statements that the affiants have known the applicant for years and that attest to the applicant being physically present in the United States during the required period. These statements fail, however, to establish the applicant's continuous unlawful residence in the United States for the duration of the requisite period. As stated previously, the evidence must be evaluated not by the quantity of evidence alone but by its quality; an applicant must provide evidence of

eligibility apart from his or her own testimony; and the sufficiency of all evidence produced by the applicant will be judged according to its probative value and credibility.

None of the witness statements provide concrete information, specific to the applicant and generated by the asserted associations with the applicant, which would reflect and corroborate the extent of those associations and demonstrate that they were a sufficient basis for reliable knowledge about the applicant's residence during the time addressed in the affidavits. To be considered probative and credible, witness affidavits must do more than simply state that an affiant knows an applicant and that the applicant has lived in the United States for a specific time period. Their content must include sufficient detail from a claimed relationship to indicate that the relationship probably did exist and that the witness does, by virtue of that relationship, have knowledge of the facts alleged. Upon review, the AAO finds that, individually and together, the witness statements do not indicate that their assertions are probably true. Therefore, they have little probative value.

The record also contains a notarized employment letter on [REDACTED] letterhead dated July 9, 2005 and signed by [REDACTED] management. The letter states that the applicant worked as construction worker/helper from September 1980 to May 1987 and July 1987 to November 1989. Mr. [REDACTED] states that the applicant earned \$5,600 annually and that the information in the letter is true to the best of his knowledge and company records. The letter fails to meet certain regulatory standards set forth at 8 C.F.R. § 245a.2(d)(3)(i), which provides that letters from employers must include the applicant's address at the time of employment; exact period of employment; whether the information was taken from official company records and where records are located and whether USCIS may have access to the records; if records are unavailable, an affidavit form-letter stating that the employment records are unavailable may be accepted which shall be signed, attested to by the employer under penalty of perjury and shall state the employer's willingness to come forward and give testimony if requested. The letter from Mr. [REDACTED] does not include much of the required information and can only be accorded minimal weight as evidence of the applicant's residence in the United States for the duration of the requisite period.

In the Form I-687, the applicant states that he last entered the United States on March 31, 1999 with a B-2 visa. The record contains no objective evidence that the applicant entered the United States before January 1, 1982.

On May 16, 2011, the AAO issued a notice of intent to deny (NOID) informing the applicant of the deficiencies in the record and providing him with an opportunity to respond. No response has been received.

As stated in 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(3)(iv), any appeal which is filed that fails to state the reason for appeal, or is patently frivolous, will be summarily dismissed. Given the paucity of credible evidence contained in the record and the applicant's failure to respond to the NOID, the appeal will be summarily dismissed.

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