



U.S. Citizenship
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Services

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FILE:

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Office: TEXAS SERVICE CENTER Date

IN RE:

Applicant:

[REDACTED]

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.

Cindy N. Gomez for

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 Nicaragua 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 that she was eligible for late initial registration.

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 her 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 November 22, 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 December 26, 2003. The appeal, however, was not properly received at the Texas Service Center until January 30, 2004.

It is noted that the evidence submitted on appeal would not have overcome the finding of the director. The applicant resubmitted her Internal Revenue Service tax forms for the years 1998 through 2002, as evidence of her continuous residence and continuous physical presence in the United States. She did not submit additional evidence. Regarding her failure to file her initial TPS application during the initial registration period, from January 5, 1999, through August 20, 1999, the applicant stated that there was a large-scale rumor that the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) [now Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS)] would take measures to deport those who applied for TPS. The applicant states that when she realized this was false, she decided to apply. The applicant has not submitted any evidence to establish that she has met any of the criteria for late registration described in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2).

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

As always in these proceedings, the burden of proof rests solely with the applicant. Section 291 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1361.

ORDER: The appeal is rejected.