



U.S. Citizenship  
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Services

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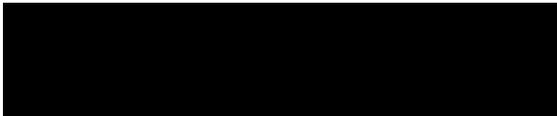
Office: VERMONT SERVICE CENTER

Date: OCT 31 2005

[EAC 03 258 53670]

IN RE:

Applicant:



APPLICATION:

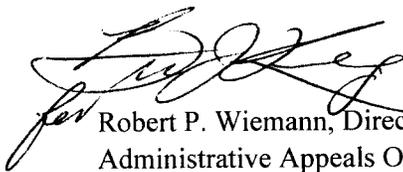
Application for Temporary Protected Status under Section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1254

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, Vermont 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 determined that the applicant failed to establish he: 1) had continuously resided in the United States since February 13, 2001; 2) had been continuously physically present in the United States since March 9, 2001; and 3) was eligible for late registration. The director, therefore, denied the application.

On appeal, the applicant states that he needs to work legally in the United States.

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 as 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.

*Continuously physically present*, as defined in 8 C.F.R. §244.1, means actual physical presence in the United States for the entire period specified in the regulations. An alien shall not be considered to have failed to maintain continuous physical presence in the United States by virtue of brief, casual, and innocent absences as defined within this section.

*Continuously resided*, as defined in 8 C.F.R. §244.1, means residing in the United States for the entire period specified in the regulations. An alien shall not be considered to have failed to maintain continuous residence in the United States by reason of a brief, casual, and innocent absence as defined within this section or due merely to a brief temporary trip abroad required by emergency or extenuating circumstances outside the control of the alien.

Persons applying for TPS offered to El Salvadorans must demonstrate that they have continuously resided in the United States since February 13, 2001, and that they have been continuously physically present in the United States since March 9, 2001. On July 9, 2002, the Attorney General announced an extension of the TPS designation until September 9, 2003. Subsequent extensions of the TPS designation have been granted, with the latest extension granted until September 9, 2006, upon the applicant's re-registration during the requisite period.

The initial registration period for El Salvadorans was from March 9, 2001 through September 9, 2002. The record shows that the applicant filed this application on September 13, 2003.

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 Citizenship and Immigration Services (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 first issue in this proceeding is whether the applicant is eligible for late registration.

The record of proceeding confirms that the applicant filed his application after the initial registration period had closed. To qualify for late registration, the applicant must provide evidence that during the initial registration period from March 9, 2001 through September 9, 2002, he fell within the provisions described in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2) (listed above). If the qualifying condition or application has expired or been terminated, the individual must file within a 60-day period immediately following the expiration or termination of the qualifying condition in order to be considered for the late initial registration. 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(g).

On October 17, 2003, the applicant was provided the opportunity to submit evidence establishing his eligibility for late registration as set forth in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2). The applicant was also requested to submit evidence establishing his continuous residence in the United States since February 13, 2001, and his continuous physical presence in the United States from March 9, 2001, to the filing date of the application. The applicant, in response, provided evidence in an attempt to establish continuous residence and continuous physical presence in the United States during the qualifying period. Therefore, the director denied the application.

On appeal, the applicant states that he needs to work legally in the United States. According to the applicant, he

cannot go back to his country because he has to help his mother and his family because they are very poor. The applicant's statements made on appeal have been considered. Nevertheless, there is no waiver available, even for humanitarian reasons, of the requirements stated above. The applicant has not submitted any evidence to establish that he has met any of the criteria for late registration described in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2). Consequently, the director's conclusion that the applicant failed to establish his eligibility for late registration will be affirmed.

The second and third issues in this proceeding are whether the applicant has established his continuous residence in the United States since February 13, 2001, and his continuous physical presence in the United States since March 9, 2001.

As stated above, the applicant was requested on October 17, 2003 to submit evidence establishing his qualifying continuous residence and continuous physical presence in the United States. In response, the applicant submitted the following documentation:

1. Statements from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]
2. Copies of hand-written generic receipts dated February 1, 2001 and May 1, 2001 and hand-written receipts from Orquidia Enterprise dated January 8, 2003, January 29, 2003, and February 11, 2003.
3. Copies of an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) 2002 Form W-2, Wage and Tax Statement.
4. Copies of pay stubs dated January 12, 2002, August 12, 2002, December 15, 2002, December 22, 2002, December 29, 2002, January 5, 2003, January 12, 2003, January 26, 2003, February 2, 2003, February 9, 2003, February 16, 2003, February 23, 2003, March 2, 2003, March 9, 2003, March 16, 2003, March 23, 2003, April 6, 2003, April 20, 2003, and April 27, 2003.
5. Copies of Costamar money transfer receipts dated June 15, 2003, July 7, 2003, July 14, 2003, July 22, 2003, and Money Gram money transfer receipts dated April 10, 2001, March 12, 2003, March 14, 2003, March 20, 2003, April 3, 2003, April 25, 2003, June 2, 2003, June 25, 2003, August 9, 2003, August 21, 2003, August 25, 2003, September 10, 2003, September 15, 2003, September 22, 2003, October 11, 2003, October 18, 2003, and October 31, 2003.

[REDACTED] states that the applicant has rented a room from him since January 10, 2001. The hand-written receipts submitted in support of this claim appear to have been prepared sequentially, which reduces their probative value. Other than these receipts, [REDACTED] statement is not supported by any corroborative evidence. It is reasonable to expect that the applicant would have some type of contemporaneous evidence to support these assertions; however, no such evidence has been provided. [REDACTED] states that the applicant was employed by El Mexicano Services Corporation, New York, New York from December 2000 to March 2001. However, this statement has little evidentiary weight or probative value as it does not provide basic information that is expressly required by 8 C.F.R. § 244.9(a)(2)(i). Specifically, the affiant does not provide the address where the applicant resided during the period of his employment. It is further noted that [REDACTED] did not indicate the applicant's duties of employment. The remaining evidence is dated subsequent to the requisite dates to establish continuous residence and continuous physical presence in the United States during the qualifying period.

The director concluded that the applicant had failed to establish his qualifying residence and physical presence in the United States during the requisite periods and denied the application. On appeal, the applicant fails to submit any additional evidence.

The applicant has not submitted sufficient evidence to establish his qualifying residence since February 13, 2001, and his continuous physical presence in the United States since March 9, 2001. He has, therefore, failed to establish that he has met the criteria described in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(b) and (c). Consequently, the director's decision to deny the application for temporary protected status on these grounds will also be affirmed.

The application will be denied for the above stated reasons, with each considered as an independent and alternative basis for denial. 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.