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U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

*MZ*

[REDACTED]

FILE: [REDACTED] Office: CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER Date: **APR 03 2006**  
[WAC 05 095 75949]

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.

*for*  
Handwritten signature of Robert P. Wiemann in cursive.

Robert P. Wiemann, Director  
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The application was denied by the Director, California Service Center, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The applicant claims to be a citizen of Honduras who is seeking Temporary Protected Status (TPS) under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1254.

The record reveals that the applicant filed a TPS application during the initial registration period under CIS receipt number SRC 03 197 56561. The director denied that application as abandoned on November 18, 2003, because the applicant failed to respond to a request for evidence.

The applicant filed the current Form I-821, Application for Temporary Protected Status, on January 3, 2005, and indicated that he was re-registering for TPS.

The director denied the re-registration application because the applicant's initial TPS application had been denied and the applicant was not eligible to apply for re-registration for TPS.

On appeal, the applicant states that he is a native of Honduras who entered the United States in 1998. According to the applicant, he needs his employment authorization to support his family. The applicant also submits additional evidence in an attempt to establish his eligibility for TPS.

If the applicant is filing an application as a re-registration, a previous grant of TPS must have been afforded the applicant, as only those individuals who are granted TPS must register annually. In addition, the applicant must continue to maintain the conditions of eligibility. 8 C.F.R. § 244.17.

In this case, the applicant has not previously been granted TPS. Therefore, he is not eligible to re-register for TPS. Consequently, the director's decision to deny the application will be affirmed.

It is noted that the director's decision does not explore the possibility that the applicant was attempting to file a late initial application for TPS instead of an annual re-registration.

Section 244(c) of the Act, and the related regulations in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2, provide that an applicant may apply for TPS during the initial registration period, or:

- (f) (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.

The initial registration period for Hondurans was from January 5, 1999 to August 20, 1999. The record reveals that the applicant filed the current application with Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) on January 3, 2005.

To qualify for late registration, the applicant must provide evidence that during the initial registration period he fell within at least one of the provisions described in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2) above.

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 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).

On appeal, the applicant states that he entered the United States in 1998 and timely applied for TPS. According to the applicant, he has always complied with re-registrations and renewals of his employment authorization. The applicant also states that he did not receive the director's notice of decision. The applicant also submits additional evidence in an attempt to establish his eligibility for TPS. However, this does not mitigate the applicant's failure to file his TPS application within the initial registration period.

Although the applicant states that he did not receive the director's decision, the applicant was sent to the applicant's address of record. There is nothing in the record that the notice was returned by the United States Postal Service as undeliverable. Therefore, the applicant's failure to receive the notice is not of CIS' making.

The applicant has failed to provide any evidence to establish that this application should be accepted as a late initial registration under 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2). Therefore, the application also must be denied for this reason.

It is noted the Federal Bureau of Investigation fingerprint results report shows that on February 22, 2003, in Miami Beach, Florida, the applicant was arrested for: (1) Driving Under the Influence ; and (2) Grand Theft 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Vehicle. However, the final court disposition of this arrest is not included in the record of proceeding. CIS must address this arrest and/or conviction(s) in any future decisions or proceedings.

Beyond the decision of the director, the applicant submitted a copy of his Honduran passport that appears to have been issued to him in Honduras on May 19, 2001. Therefore, the applicant may not have met the continuous residence and continuous physical presence requirements for TPS.

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.