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U.S. Citizenship
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Services

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FILE:



Office: California Service Center

Date:

DEC 08 2006
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[WAC 05 111 80238]

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, Chief
Administrative Appeals Office

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

The applicant is stated to be a 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 record reveals that the applicant filed his initial TPS application under CIS receipt number SRC 04 002 54961, on September 18, 2003. The Director, Texas Service Center (TSC), denied that application on April 21, 2004, due to abandonment because the applicant failed to respond to a request for evidence in order to establish his eligibility for TPS late registration and regarding his past arrests.

The applicant filed the instant Form I-821, Application for Temporary Protected Status, on January 19, 2005, indicating that this was his initial TPS application.

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

An alien shall not be eligible for temporary protected status under this section if the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security finds that the alien has been convicted of any felony or two or more misdemeanors committed in the United States. See Section 244(c)(2)(B)(i) of the Act and 8 C.F.R. § 244.4(a).

8 C.F.R. § 244.1 defines "felony" and "misdemeanor:"

Felony means a crime committed in the United States, punishable by imprisonment for a term of more than one year, regardless of the term such alien actually served, if any, except: When the offense is defined by the State as a misdemeanor and the sentence actually imposed is one year or less regardless of the term such alien actually served. Under this exception for purposes of section 244 of the Act, the crime shall be treated as a misdemeanor.

Misdemeanor means a crime committed in the United States, either

- (1) Punishable by imprisonment for a term of one year or less, regardless of the term such alien actually served, if any, or
- (2) A crime treated as a misdemeanor under the term "felony" of this section.

For purposes of this definition, any crime punishable by imprisonment for a maximum term of *five days or less* shall not be considered a misdemeanor.
8 C.F.R. § 244.1.

The initial registration period for Nicaraguans was from January 5, 1999, through August 20, 1999. The record reveals that the applicant filed the instant application with Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) on January 19, 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 1985 and has continuously resided in the United States. The applicant also states that he did not apply under NACARA because of his financial situation. In addition, the applicant stated that he applied for political asylum and that he received employment authorization based on a pending order of supervision.

A review of the record reveals that the applicant filed an application for asylum with the Director, Miami District Office, on July 3, 1986, and that application is still pending with the Service. Therefore, the record reflects that the applicant is meets one of the criteria for late registration.

However, beyond the decision of the director, it also is noted that the record of proceedings contains a Federal Bureau of Investigation fingerprint results report that reveals that the applicant was arrested by the Metro-Dade Police Department for the following:

- 1) On November 4, 1988, the applicant was charged with "Resisting Arrest"; and,
- 2) On March 19, 1995, the applicant was charged with "Traffic Offense - DUI Prop Dam."

The applicant has failed to provide evidence revealing the final court disposition of his past arrests, as noted above, in order to determine his eligibility for TPS. The applicant is ineligible for temporary protected status because of his failure to provide information necessary for the adjudication of his application. 8 C.F.R. § 244.9(a). Therefore, the application for TPS will be denied on this ground, and the applicant remains ineligible 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.