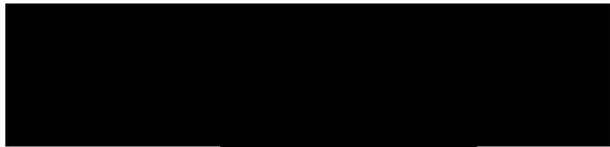


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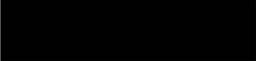


U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

**PUBLIC COPY**



FILE:



Office: CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER

Date: **JUN 24** 2008

[WAC 05 139 79948]

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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Wiemann".

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 (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be rejected.

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 her initial TPS application on December 24, 2001, under Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) receipt number SRC 02 069 53367. The Director, Texas Service Center, denied that application for abandonment on October 30, 2002, because the applicant failed to respond to a request for evidence to establish her continuous residence and continuous physical presence in the United States during the qualifying period and her eligibility to file for late initial registration. The applicant was also requested to provide a copy of her photo identification. A denial due to abandonment may not be appealed, but an applicant or petitioner may file a motion to reopen within 30 days. There is nothing in the record to indicate that the applicant filed a motion to reopen the director's decision.

The applicant filed the current Form I-821, Application for Temporary Protected Status, on February 16, 2005, and indicated that she 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.

In order to properly file an appeal, the regulation at 8 C.P.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(i) provides that the affected party must file the complete appeal within 30 days of after service of the unfavorable decision. If the decision was mailed, the appeal must be filed within 33 days. *See* 8 C.P.R. § 103.5a(b). The date of filing is not the date of mailing, but the date of actual receipt. *See* 8 C.P.R. § 103.2(a)(7)(i).

The record indicates that the director issued the decision on July 23, 2005. It is noted that the director properly gave notice to the applicant that she had 33 days to file the appeal. Although the applicant dated the appeal August 19, 2005, the director received it on August 26, 2005, 34 days after the decision was issued. Accordingly, the appeal was untimely filed. The director erroneously annotated the appeal as timely and forwarded the matter to the AAO.

Neither the Act nor the pertinent regulations grant the AAO authority to extend the 33-day time limit for filing an appeal. The regulation at 8 C.P.R. § 103J(a)(2)(v)(B)(2) states that, if an untimely appeal meets the requirements of a motion to reopen or a motion to reconsider, the appeal must be treated as a motion, and a decision must be made on the merits of the case.

A motion to reopen must state the new facts to be proved in the reopened proceeding and be supported by affidavits or other documentary evidence. 8 C.P.R. § 103.5(a)(2). A motion to reconsider must state the reasons for reconsideration and be supported by any pertinent precedent decisions to establish that the decision was based on an incorrect application of law or Service policy. A motion to reconsider a decision on an application or petition must, when filed, also establish that the decision was incorrect based on the

evidence of record at the time of the initial decision. 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(3). A motion that does not meet applicable requirements shall be dismissed. 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(4).

Here, the untimely appeal does not meet the requirements of a motion to reopen or a motion to reconsider. Therefore, there is no requirement to treat the appeal as a motion under 8 C.F.R. § 103.3(a)(2)(v)(B)(2).

As the appeal was untimely filed and 'does not qualify as a motion, the appeal must be rejected.

**ORDER:** The appeal is rejected.

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