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U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
U. S. Citizenship and Immigration Services  
Office of Administrative Appeals  
Washington, DC 20529-2090



U.S. Citizenship  
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SEP 25 2009

FILE: [REDACTED]  
[SRC 02 235 54258]

Office: VERMONT 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 Vermont Service Center. Any further inquiry must be made to that office.

If you believe the law was inappropriately applied or you have additional information that you wish to have considered, you may file a motion to reconsider or a motion to reopen. Please refer to 8 C.F.R. § 103.5 for the specific requirements. All motions must be submitted to the office that originally decided your case by filing a Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal or Motion, with a fee of \$585. Any motion must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reconsider, as required by 8 C.F.R. 103.5(a)(1)(i).

John F. Grissom  
Acting Chief, Administrative Appeals Office

**DISCUSSION:** The applicant's Temporary Protected Status was withdrawn by the Director, Vermont Service Center, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The applicant is a 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 record reveals that the applicant filed a TPS application during the initial registration period on July 17, 2002, under receipt number SRC 02 235 54258. The Director, Texas Service Center, approved that application on March 31, 2003.

The director may withdraw the status of an alien granted Temporary Protected Status under section 244 of the Act at any time if it is determined that the alien was not in fact eligible at the time such status was granted, or at any time thereafter becomes ineligible for such status. 8.C.F.R. § 244.14(a)(1).

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.

An alien is inadmissible if he has been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude (other than a purely political offense), or if he admits having committed such crime, or if he admits committing an act which constitutes the essential elements of such crime. Section 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(I) of the Act.

An alien is inadmissible if he has been convicted of, or admits having committed, or admits committing acts which constitute the essential elements of a violation of (or a conspiracy to violate) any law or regulation of a State, the United States, or a foreign country relating to a controlled substance (as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act, 21 USC 802). Section 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(II) of the Act.

Any alien convicted of 2 or more offenses (other than purely political offenses), regardless of whether the conviction was in a single trial or whether the offenses arose from a single scheme of misconduct and regardless of whether the offenses involved moral turpitude, for which the aggregate sentences to confinement were 5 years or more is inadmissible. Section 212(a)(2)(B) of the Act.

An alien is inadmissible if a consular officer or immigration officer knows or has reason to believe he is or has been an illicit trafficker in any such controlled substance. Section 212(a)(2)(C) of the Act.

The director may withdraw the status of an alien granted Temporary Protected Status under section 244 of the Act at any time if it is determined that the alien was not in fact eligible at the time such status was granted, or at any time thereafter becomes ineligible for such status. 8.C.F.R. § 244.14(a)(1).

The record reveals the following offenses:

- (1) On July 13, 1992, the applicant was arrested by the Dallas, Texas Police Department for "Unlawful Carrying of Weapon." [REDACTED]
- (2) On May 29, 1994, the applicant was arrested by the Dallas, Texas Police Department for "Failure to Identify Fugitive from Justice." [REDACTED]
- (3) On September 14, 2006, the applicant was arrested by the Dallas, Texas Police Department for "Prostitution." [REDACTED]

Pursuant to a letter dated January 14, 2008, the applicant was requested to submit the final court disposition for each of the charges detailed above. The applicant submitted the requested documents. According to the court dispositions: on August 4, 1992, the applicant was convicted of "Unlawful Carrying of Weapon", a misdemeanor; on July 12, 1994, the applicant was convicted of "Failure to Identify Fugitive from Justice", a misdemeanor; and, on December 11, 2006, the applicant was convicted of "Prostitution", a misdemeanor.

The director withdrew temporary protected status because the applicant had been convicted of two or more misdemeanors.

On appeal, the applicant states that he will not be able to provide for his family without TPS. The applicant also claims that his life could be in danger if he returns to El Salvador. The burden of proof is upon the applicant to establish that he or she meets the above requirements. The applicant's statement, on appeal, does not overcome the adverse evidence in the record. Consequently, the director's decision to withdraw the applicant's temporary protected status will be affirmed. The applicant is ineligible for TPS because of his misdemeanor convictions.

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.