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



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

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DATE: Office: CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER FILE: [REDACTED]

APR 27 2011

WAC 10 901 07621
WAC 11 077 52151-motion

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:

Enclosed please find the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office in your case. All of the documents related to this matter have been returned to the California Service Center. Please be advised that any further inquiry that you might have concerning your case must be made to that office.

If you believe the law was inappropriately applied by us in reaching our decision, or you have additional information that you wish to have considered, you may file a motion to reconsider or a motion to reopen. The specific requirements for filing such a request can be found at 8 C.F.R. § 103.5. All motions must be submitted to the California Service Center by filing a Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal or Motion, with a fee of \$630. Please be aware that 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(1)(i) requires that any motion must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reconsider or reopen.

Thank you,


for Perry Rhew
Chief, Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The application was denied by the Director, California Service Center. A subsequent appeal was dismissed by the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO). The matter is now before the AAO on a motion to reopen and reconsider. The motion will be dismissed.

The applicant claims to be a native and citizen of Haiti 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 denied the application because the applicant had been convicted of a felony in the United States. The AAO, in dismissing the appeal on November 30, 2010, concurred with the director's finding. The AAO, conducting its review on a *de novo* basis,¹ determined that the applicant was also inadmissible under section 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(II) of the Act due to his drug related conviction.

The regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(1)(i) requires that a motion to reopen or reconsider a proceeding must be filed within 30 days of the underlying decision, and that a motion to reopen must be filed within 30 days except that failure to file a motion during this period may be excused when the applicant has demonstrated that the delay was reasonable and beyond the control of the applicant.

Whenever a person has the right or is required to do some act within a prescribed period after the service of a notice upon him and the notice is served by mail, three days shall be added to the prescribed period. Service by mail is complete upon mailing. 8 C.F.R. § 103.5a(b).

Pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(4), a motion that does not meet applicable requirements shall be dismissed.

The AAO rendered its decision on November 30, 2010. This motion, dated January 18, 2011, was received on January 24, 2011, 55 days after the date of the AAO's decision. The applicant has not demonstrated that the delay was reasonable and beyond his control. The motion is untimely.

ORDER: The motion is dismissed. The previous decision of the AAO dated November 30, 2010, is affirmed.

¹ The AAO maintains plenary power to review each appeal on a *de novo* basis. 5 U.S.C. § 557(b) ("On appeal from or review of the initial decision, the agency has all the powers which it would have in making the initial decision except as it may limit the issues on notice or by rule."); *see also, Janka v. U.S. Dept. of Transp., NTSB*, 925 F.2d 1147, 1149 (9th Cir. 1991). The AAO's *de novo* authority has long been recognized by the federal courts. *See, e.g. Dor v. INS*, 891 F.2d 997, 1002 n.9 (2d Cir. 1989).