U.S. Department of Justice

Immigration and Naturalization Service

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PUBLIC COPY

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS
425 Eye Street N.W.
ULLB, 3rd Floor
Washington, D.C. 20536

[redacted]

FEB 28 2003

FILE: [redacted] Office: Texas Service Center Date:
SRC 02 208 56299

IN RE: Applicant: [redacted]

APPLICATION: Application for Temporary Protected Status under Section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1254

identifying data deleted to prevent clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy

IN BEHALF OF APPLICANT: Self-represented

INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision in your case. All documents have been returned to the office which originally decided your case. Any further inquiry must be made to that office.

If you believe the law was inappropriately applied or the analysis used in reaching the decision was inconsistent with the information provided or with precedent decisions, you may file a motion to reconsider. Such a motion must state the reasons for reconsideration and be supported by any pertinent precedent decisions. Any motion to reconsider must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reconsider, as required under 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(1)(i).

If you have new or additional information which you wish to have considered, you may file a motion to reopen. Such a motion must state the new facts to be proved at the reopened proceeding and be supported by affidavits or other documentary evidence. Any motion to reopen must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reopen, except that failure to file before this period expires may be excused in the discretion of the Service where it is demonstrated that the delay was reasonable and beyond the control of the applicant or petitioner. *Id.*

Any motion must be filed with the office which originally decided your case along with a fee of $110 as required under 8 C.F.R. § 103.7.

FOR THE ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER,
EXAMINATIONS

for Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

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

The applicant is a native and 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. § 1254a.

The director determined that the applicant failed to submit evidence to establish that she was eligible for filing after the initial registration period from January 5, 1999 to August 20, 1999. The director, therefore, denied the application.

On appeal, the applicant states she wanted to file an application during the initial registration period, but she was experiencing financial difficulties at the time and gave priority to other necessities such as rent and food. The applicant further states that she did not apply because of her fear of being deported. The applicant submits additional evidence of her residence in the United States.

Section 244(c) of the Act, and the related regulations in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2, provide that an alien who is a national of a foreign state designated by the Attorney General is eligible for temporary protected status only if such alien establishes that he or she:

(a) Is a national, as defined in section 101(a)(21) of the Act, of a foreign state designated under section 244(b) of the Act;

(b) Has been continuously physically present in the United States since the effective date of the most recent designation of that foreign state;

(c) Has continuously resided in the United States since such date as the Attorney General may designate;

(d) Is admissible as an immigrant except as provided under section 244.3;

(e) Is not ineligible under 8 C.F.R. § 244.4; and

(f) (1) Registers for TPS during the initial registration period announced by public notice in the *Federal Register*, or

(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 condition described in paragraph (f)(2) of this section.

Continuously physically present means actual physical presence in the United States for the entire period specified in the regulations. An alien shall not be considered to have failed to maintain continuous physical presence in the United States by virtue of brief, casual, and innocent absences as defined within this section.

Continuously resided means residing in the United States for the entire period specified in the regulations. An alien shall not be considered to have failed to maintain continuous residence in the United States by reason of a brief, casual and innocent absence as defined within this section or due merely to a brief temporary trip abroad required by emergency or extenuating circumstances outside the control of the alien.

The record reflects that the applicant filed her TPS application on June 24, 2002. In a notice of intent to deny dated August 9, 2002, the applicant was requested to submit (1) evidence of nationality; (2) evidence to show that she has continuously resided in the United States since December 30, 1998; (3) evidence to show that she has been continuously physically present since January 5, 1999; and (4) evidence to establish that she was eligible for filing after the initial registration period from January 5, 1999 to August 20, 1999. While the applicant, in response, submitted evidence of her nationality and documentation pertaining to residence in the United States, she failed to submit evidence to establish that she was eligible to apply for late initial registration. The director, therefore, denied the application.

Aliens applying under the provisions for late initial registration must prove that they are eligible because during the initial

registration period of January 5, 1999 through August 20, 1999, they fell within the provisions described in paragraph (f)(2) above.

The applicant, on appeal, submits additional evidence of her residence in the United States. However, no evidence was furnished to establish that she met the qualification for late registration, and to overcome the findings of the director pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2).

The burden of proof is upon the applicant to establish that 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.