



May 2, 2006

Press Release

USCIS Issues Reminder for Hondurans and Nicaraguans Eligible for Temporary Protected Status

WASHINGTON, D.C. – With less than one month remaining, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services today issued a reminder to Hondurans and Nicaraguans eligible to file a re-registration application for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) by the closing date of June 1, 2006. Failure to file a TPS re-registration application by June 1, will result in the withdrawal of TPS benefits, including employment authorization and protection from removal from the United States. There are approximately 75,000 nationals of Honduras and 4,000 nationals of Nicaragua (or aliens having no nationality who last habitually resided in Honduras or Nicaragua respectively) who may be eligible for re-registration. To date, approximately 7,500 eligible TPS beneficiaries have re-registered.

The extension of TPS for nationals of Honduras and Nicaragua is effective July 5, 2006, and will remain in effect until July 5, 2007. Nationals of Honduras and Nicaragua who have been granted TPS previously must re-register for the 12-month extension during the 60-day re-registration period, which began April 1, 2006 and will remain in effect until June 1, 2006.

To re-register for TPS under the extension, a TPS beneficiary must submit Form I-821 (Application for Temporary Protected Status) without the filing fee, Form I-765 (Application for Employment Authorization), and a \$70 biometrics services fee for each applicant age 14 and older. **Both the Form I-765 and I-821 must be submitted for re-registration.** If the applicant is only seeking to re-register for TPS and not seeking an extension of employment authorization, there is no filing fee for the Form I-765. However, all applicants seeking an extension of employment authorization until July 5, 2007 must submit a \$180 filing fee with Form I-765. Applicants may request a fee waiver in accordance with the regulations. The biometric fees, however, cannot be waived. The \$70 biometric service fee must be submitted by all re-registrants age 14 and older, as well as re-registrants under age 14 who are requesting an EAD. **Failure to submit the required filing fees will result in the rejection of the re-registration application.**

More information can be obtained from the USCIS National Customer Service Center toll-free number: 1-800-375-5283. TPS forms are available from the toll-free USCIS Forms line, 1-800-870-3676, or from the USCIS Web site: www.uscis.gov.

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On March 1, 2003, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) became one of three former INS components to join the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. USCIS is charged with fundamentally transforming and improving the delivery of immigration and citizenship services, while enhancing the integrity of our nation's security.