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July 8, 2006

U.S. Department of Labor
Division of Trade Adjustment Assistance
Room C-5311
200 Constitution Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20210

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Re: Request for an Appeal
Petition: # TA-57603
Departure Date: 11/27/2005

James Himick, 09-20-1958
SS #: 095-54-0248

I am requesting an appeal on my behalf. On June 30, 2006, My wife and I had a meeting with Stephen Andrews WIA Career Counselor with Polk Works One-Stop Center in Lakeland, Fl. (863) 683-5627 Ext. 141, during this meeting, it was brought to my attention that I had been disqualified for TAA benefits. I was informed that the disqualification was based on failure to complete all the steps with Polk Works One within the time allotted. I received confirmation the TRA application was received on January 25, 2006.

Mr. Andrews has been very helpful, and sympathetic to my needs. He has provided me with all necessary forms to be completed in order to move forward with the possibility of receiving assistance with WIA. Without financial assistance from the TAA program, I do not have the financial capability of completing the retraining program at Travis Technical.

I failed to notice the detail that once you started the program you had a certain time allotted to complete the TAA Process. This has totally devastated me and is a disastrous mistake on my part.

I did complete the orientation, and had completed most of the testing with the acceptance of testing that pertained to math. My handicap was in my skills of basic math which had diminished, & were in need of polishing. My pride & dignity stood in the way of accepting training from Polk Works One. In the privacy of my home I received the necessary tutoring to prepare for further testing. I was confident in my abilities, and intended to complete the testing after the Memorial Day Holiday. It was disappointing to learn that my benefits had ended on June 3, 2006

I have never been without employment since I graduated in 1977, from Saunders Trade School Yonkers, New York... Since my layoff from Johnson/Johnson Cordis Corporation this past November, I became enrolled at Travis Technical School located at 3225 Winter Lake Rd Lakeland, Fl 33803; I began classes on January 05, 2006 to become certified in the field as an Electrician.

I assumed that I was entitled to these benefits automatically, and can only hold myself responsible for not paying attention to details. I was irresponsible in depending on my wife who herself was busy at keeping our household together. If at all possible, is there any way of being reinstated for TAA benefits?

I am pleading to the Board of Appeals, to please give me a chance to turn my life around and receive the training that I need to continue to be a productive member in our society. With manufacturing plants closing throughout the United States, and being outsourced to other countries, the opportunity for gainful employment is critical...

Sincerely,



James R. Himick

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