U.S. Department of Justice
Executive Office for Immigration Review

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

Decision of the Board of Immigration Appeals

File: D2000-135

Date: MAR 8 2001

In re: JOHN HYKEL

IN PRACTITIONER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

PETITION FOR IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION

ON BEHALF OF GENERAL COUNSEL: Jennifer J. Barnes, Esquire

ON BEHALF OF SERVICE: Javier Balasquide, Appellate Counsel

ORDER:

PER CURIAM. On May 25, 2000, before the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, the respondent pled guilty to charges of making false statements to the Department of Labor in connection with his immigration practice. This offense constitutes a serious crime for purposes of disciplinary proceedings. *See* 65 Fed. Reg. 39,513, 39,527 (June 27, 2000) (to be codified at 8 C.F.R. § 3.102(h)).

Consequently, on February 23, 2001, the Office of General Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review initiated disciplinary proceedings against the respondent and petitioned for the respondent's immediate suspension from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals and the Immigration Courts. On March 1, 2001, the Immigration and Naturalization Service moved to join that petition and asked that the respondent be similarly suspended from practice before that agency.

The petition is granted, and the respondent is hereby suspended, absent a showing of good cause, from the practice of law before the Board, the Immigration Courts, and the Service pending final disposition of this proceeding. *See* 65 Fed. Reg. at 39,527 (to be codified at 8 C.F.R. § 3.103(a)).

Accordingly, the respondent is directed to promptly notify, in writing, any clients with cases currently pending before the Board, the Immigration Courts, or the Service that the respondent has been suspended from practicing before these bodies. The respondent shall maintain records to evidence compliance with this order. Moreover, we direct that the contents of this notice be made available to the public, including at Immigration Courts and appropriate offices of the Service.

FOR THE BOARD