File: D2000-123 Date: JAN 2 5 2001

In re: JUSTIN JIN-LIN ONG, ATTORNEY

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 July 17, 2000, the respondent was convicted of the crimes of Visa Fraud and Subscribing to False Return and was sentenced by the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas to 4 months' imprisonment and 3 years' supervised release thereafter. The respondent was also ordered to surrender his law license, to resign from the practice of law, and to cease any employment related to immigration law until reinstated as an attorney by the state bar of Texas.

Consequently, on January 5, 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 January 11, 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. 39,513, 39,527 (June 27, 2000) (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.

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