

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

**U.S. Department of Justice
Executive Office for Immigration Review
Board of Immigration Appeals**

MATTER OF:

Kofi O. AMANKWAA, D2023-0268

Respondent

FILED

FEB 04 2025

ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT: Pro se

ON BEHALF OF DHS: Toinette M. Mitchell, Disciplinary Counsel

ON BEHALF OF EOIR: Paul A. Rodrigues, Disciplinary Counsel

**IN PRACTITIONER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS
Notice of Intent to Discipline Before the Board of Immigration Appeals**

Before: Clark, Appellate Immigration Judge; Creppy, Appellate Immigration Judge; Liebowitz,
Appellate Immigration Judge

Opinion by Clark, Appellate Immigration Judge

CLARK, Appellate Immigration Judge

The respondent will be disbarred from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the Department of Homeland Security ("DHS"), effective December 22, 2023.

On November 9, 2023, the Supreme Court of the State of New York, Appellate Division, First Judicial Department, indefinitely suspended the respondent from the practice of law in New York, effective immediately. On November 16, 2023, the Disciplinary Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review and the Disciplinary Counsel for DHS jointly petitioned for the respondent's immediate suspension from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and DHS. We granted the petition on December 22, 2023.

On August 28, 2024, the Supreme Court of the State of New York, Appellate Division, First Judicial Department issued a final order disbarring the respondent from the practice of law in New York. On November 18, 2024, the Disciplinary Counsels filed a Joint Notice of Intent to Discipline. The respondent was required to file a timely answer to the allegations contained in the Joint Notice of Intent to Discipline but has failed to do so. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.105(d)(1). The respondent's failure to file a response within the time prescribed in the Joint Notice of Intent to Discipline constitutes an admission of the allegations therein, and the respondent is now precluded from requesting a hearing on the matter. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.105(d)(1)-(2).

The Joint Notice of Intent to Discipline proposes that the respondent be disbarred from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and DHS, effective

December 22, 2023. Because the respondent did not file an answer, the regulations direct us to adopt the proposed sanction contained in the Joint Notice of Intent to Discipline, unless there are considerations that compel us to digress from that proposal. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.105(d)(2).

The proposed sanction is appropriate in light of the respondent's disbarment in New York. We will honor the proposed discipline and will order the respondent disbarred from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and DHS, effective December 22, 2023.

ORDER: The Board hereby disbars the respondent from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and DHS, effective December 22, 2023.

FURTHER ORDER: The respondent must maintain compliance with the directives set forth in our prior order. The respondent must notify the Board of any further disciplinary action against him.

FURTHER ORDER: The contents of the order shall be made available to the public, including at the Immigration Courts and appropriate offices of DHS.

FURTHER ORDER: The respondent may petition this Board for reinstatement to practice before the Board, the Immigration Courts, and DHS under 8 C.F.R. § 1003.107.