

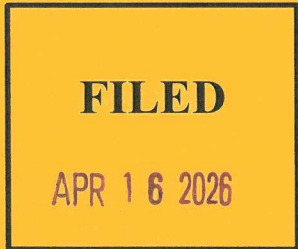
NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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

MATTER OF:

Todd J. HILTS, D2026-0062

Respondent



ON BEHALF OF EOIR: Nathan S. Henriksen, Acting Disciplinary Counsel

ON BEHALF OF DHS: Amy S. Paulick, Disciplinary Counsel

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

Before: Malphrus, Chief Appellate Immigration Judge; Creppy, Appellate Immigration Judge;
Mullane, Appellate Immigration Judge

Opinion by Creppy, Appellate Immigration Judge

CREPPY, Appellate Immigration Judge

The respondent is suspended from the practice of law before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Court, and the Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”) for 30 days, effective February 21, 2026. The respondent’s unopposed motion for reinstatement will be granted, effective immediately upon issuance of this order.

On January 22, 2026, the Supreme Court of California issued an order suspending the respondent from the practice of law in California for 1 year, the execution of that period of suspension stayed. The order also placed the respondent on probation for 1 year and suspended him for the first 30 days of probation. On February 24, 2026, the Disciplinary Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review (“EOIR”) and the Disciplinary Counsel for DHS filed a Joint Notice of Intent to Discipline (“NID”), as well as a Joint Petition for Immediate Suspension, based upon the respondent’s suspension. We granted the Joint Petition for Immediate Suspension on March 13, 2026.

On March 10, 2026, the respondent filed a timely answer to the charges in the NID. In his answer, the respondent admitted the allegations in the NID and did not contest the disciplinary charge (Respondent’s Ans. at 2). Among other things, the respondent offered no defenses in this matter, waived his right to a hearing, joined in Disciplinary Counsels’ proposed 30-day reciprocal suspension, and prospectively requested reinstatement after the expiration of his California suspension (Respondent’s Ans. at 2-3).

Based on the respondent's admissions and concessions in his answer to the NID, the reciprocal sanction proposed by Disciplinary Counsels in the NID is appropriate in light of the respondent's suspension in California, and as such, the respondent is ordered suspended from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and DHS for 30 days. *See Matter of Krongold*, 25 I&N Dec. 157, 161-62 (BIA 2010) (following deferential approach and imposing identical reciprocal discipline against suspended or disbarred practitioners). As clarified by Disciplinary Counsels in their most recent filing, the respondent's period of suspension will run concurrent with his period of suspension in California, effective February 21, 2026 (Gov't Non-Opp'n at 2 n.1).

At this point in time, the respondent's 30-day period of suspension has expired, and we therefore consider the motion for reinstatement that the respondent filed on March 27, 2026. In support of his motion, the respondent submitted evidence showing that he is authorized to practice law in California and that he meets the definition of attorney provided in 8 C.F.R. § 1001.1(f) (Respondent's Pet. at 3-4, A-D). *See* 8 C.F.R. § 1003.107(a)(1) (discussing requirements for reinstatement). Disciplinary Counsels have filed a joint non-opposition to the respondent's motion for reinstatement. Disciplinary Counsels do not dispute that the respondent meets the regulatory definition of attorney, nor have they identified any evidence indicating that the respondent failed to comply with the terms of our suspension order (Gov't Non-Opp'n at 2). Accordingly, we will grant the respondent's motion for reinstatement. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.107(a)(3). The following orders will be entered.

ORDER: The Board hereby suspends the respondent from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and DHS for 30 days, effective February 21, 2026.

FURTHER ORDER: The respondent is reinstated to practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and DHS, as of the date of this order.

FURTHER ORDER: This reinstatement should be reflected in any public notices maintained and disseminated by the Executive Office for Immigration Review regarding attorney discipline.

FURTHER ORDER: If the respondent wishes to represent a party before DHS, the Immigration Courts, or the Board, he must file a Notice of Appearance (Form G-28, Form EOIR-26, or Form EOIR-27) even in cases in which he was counsel prior to his suspension.