

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

File: D2017-0433

Date: JAN 16 2018

In re: Joel PAUL, Attorney

IN PRACTITIONER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

PETITION FOR IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION

ON BEHALF OF DHS: Catherine M. O'Connell
Disciplinary Counsel

ON BEHALF OF EOIR: Jennifer J. Barnes
Disciplinary Counsel

On November 30, 2017, the respondent was convicted, on the basis of a guilty plea, of a serious crime within the meaning of 8 C.F.R. § 1003.102(h). That is, he was convicted in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana, Indianapolis Division, of violating 18 U.S.C. §§ 1341, 1546(a), and 1028A (mail fraud, immigration document fraud, and aggravated identity theft). The Disciplinary Counsel for the Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") petitioned for the respondent's immediate suspension from practice before that agency on December 18, 2017. The Disciplinary Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review then asked that the respondent be similarly suspended from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals ("Board") and the Immigration Courts. The petition will be granted.¹ See 8 C.F.R. §1003.103(a)(4).

ORDER: The petition is granted, and the respondent is hereby suspended from the practice of law before the Board, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS pending final disposition of this proceeding. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.103(a)(4).

FURTHER ORDER: The respondent shall promptly notify, in writing, any clients with cases currently pending before the Board, the Immigration Courts, or the DHS that the respondent has been suspended from practicing before these bodies.

FURTHER ORDER: The respondent shall maintain records to evidence compliance with this order.

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



FOR THE BOARD

¹ The Board may set aside the order of immediate suspension upon a showing of good cause when it appears in the interest of justice to do so. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.103(a)(4).