

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

File: D2018-0147

Date: JUL 10 2018

In re: Albert R. SNYDER, ATTORNEY

IN PRACTITIONER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

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

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

The respondent will be suspended from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals (Board), the Immigration Courts, and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for 3 years.

On December 1, 2017, the Supreme Court of Colorado issued a final order and Notice of Suspension suspending the respondent from the practice of law in that state for 90 days, effective December 15, 2017. On December 21, 2017, the Disciplinary Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review (Disciplinary Counsel for EOIR) petitioned for the respondent's immediate suspension from practice before the Board and the Immigration Courts. The Disciplinary Counsel for the DHS then asked that the respondent be similarly suspended from practice before that agency. We granted the petition on January 17, 2018. See 8 C.F.R. §§ 1003.103(a)(1) and (4) (2017) (discussing grounds for immediate suspension).

The respondent did not file a timely answer to the Notice of Intent to Discipline and did not dispute the allegations in the Notice. Given the respondent's 90-day suspension from the practice of law in Colorado, our February 12, 2018, final order of discipline suspended the respondent from practice before the Board, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS for a period of 90 days, effective January 17, 2018. The respondent remains suspended before the Board, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS.

On May 15, 2018, the Supreme Court of Colorado issued a new order of discipline suspending the respondent from the practice of law in that state for 3 years, effective immediately. On May 24, 2018, the Acting Disciplinary Counsel for EOIR filed a new Notice of Intent to Discipline charging that the respondent is subject to reciprocal discipline under 8 C.F.R. § 1003.102(e) on the basis of the most recent suspension.

The respondent was required to file a timely answer to the allegations contained in the Notice of Intent to Discipline but has failed to do so. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.105. The respondent's failure to file a response within the time period prescribed in the 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).

The Notice of Intent to Discipline proposes that the respondent be suspended from practicing before the Board and the Immigration Courts for 3 years. The Disciplinary Counsel for the DHS asks the Board to extend that discipline to practice before that agency as well. Because the

respondent has failed to file an answer, the regulations direct the Board to adopt the proposed sanction contained in the 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 suspension in Colorado. We therefore will honor the proposed discipline and will order the respondent suspended from practice before the Board, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS for 3 years. Further, as the respondent has not been reinstated to practice before the Board, the Immigration Courts or the DHS since our February 12, 2018, final order of discipline, his 3 year suspension will be effective immediately.

ORDER: The Board hereby suspends the respondent from practice before the Board, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS for 3 years. The suspension will commence immediately upon issuance of this order.

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 the DHS.

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



FOR THE BOARD