

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

File: D2019-0009

Date: AUG 06 2019

In re: Frank Patrick SPROULS, Attorney

IN PRACTITIONER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

MOTION

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

ON BEHALF OF EOIR: Paul Rodrigues
Disciplinary Counsel

ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT: Pro se

The respondent, who has been suspended from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals ("Board"), the Immigration Courts, and the Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") for a period of 6 months, effective January 11, 2019, has sought reinstatement to practice. The Disciplinary Counsel for the DHS does not oppose the respondent's motion for reinstatement, which will be granted.

On December 12, 2018, the respondent was suspended from the practice of law for 2 years, stayed, with an imposed suspension of 6 months, and probation for 3 years, by the Supreme Court of California. The basis for the suspension involved misconduct concerning an immigration matter.

The Disciplinary Counsel for the DHS petitioned for the respondent's immediate suspension from practice before that agency on February 25, 2019. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.103(a). The Disciplinary Counsel for the Executive Office of Immigration Review then asked that the respondent be similarly suspended from practice before the Board and the Immigration Courts. We granted the petition on March 5, 2019.

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 6-month suspension from the practice of law in California, our April 16, 2019, final order of discipline suspended the respondent from practice before the Board, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS for a period of 6 months, effective January 11, 2019, the effective date of the respondent's suspension in California.

The respondent seeks to be reinstated to practice before the Board, the Immigration Courts and the DHS, and presents evidence that he is again authorized to practice law in California. See 8 C.F.R. § 1003.107(a)(1).

The Disciplinary Counsel for the DHS does not oppose the respondent's reinstatement. The Disciplinary Counsel for the DHS does not dispute that the respondent meets the definition of attorney at 8 C.F.R. § 1001.1(f). We therefore will grant the respondent's motion for reinstatement.

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

FURTHER ORDER: This reinstatement should be reflected in any public notices maintained and disseminated by EOIR regarding attorney discipline.

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



FOR THE BOARD