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

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

Decision of the Board of Immigration Appeals

File: D2019-0220 Date: SEP 12 2019

In re: Jahangir GHOBADI, Attorney

IN PRACTITIONER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

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

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

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

On June 28, 2019, the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board issued a summary order revoking the respondent's license to practice law in Virginia, effective June 28, 2019. On July 25, 2019, the Disciplinary Counsel for the Executive Office of Immigration Review petitioned for the respondent's immediate suspension from practice before the Immigration Courts and the Board of Immigration Appeals. The Disciplinary Counsel for the DHS then asked that the respondent be similarly suspended from practice before that agency. We granted the petition on August 6, 2019.

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 disbarred from practicing before the Board of Immigration Appeals and the Immigration Courts. The Disciplinary Counsel for the DHS asks us to extend that discipline to practice before that agency. Because the respondent has failed to file an answer, the regulations direct us 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 disbarment in Virginia. We therefore will honor the proposed discipline and will order the respondent disbarred from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS. Further, as the respondent is currently under our August 6, 2019, order of suspension, we will deem his disbarment to have commenced on that date.

ORDER: The Board hereby disbars the respondent from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS. The disbarment is deemed to have commenced on August 6, 2019.

FURTHER ORDER: The respondent must maintain compliance with the directives set forth in our prior order. The respondent must notify the Board of Immigration Appeals 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 of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS under 8 C.F.R. § 1003.107.

FOR THE BOARD