

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

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File: D2020-0065

Date: SEP 15 2020

In re: Bobby Gordon Onyemeh SEA, 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 suspended indefinitely from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

On August 7, 2019, the Supreme Court of Minnesota indefinitely suspended the respondent from the practice of law in Minnesota due to misconduct. On March 16, 2020, the Disciplinary Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) and the Disciplinary Counsel for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) jointly petitioned for the respondent's immediate suspension from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS. The Disciplinary Counsels for EOIR and the DHS further stated that the respondent remained suspended in Minnesota as of the date of their petition. We granted the petition on May 19, 2020.

The Disciplinary Counsels for EOIR and the DHS also filed a Joint Notice of Intent to Discipline charging that the respondent is subject to reciprocal discipline under 8 C.F.R. § 1003.102(e) in light of his suspension in Minnesota. The respondent filed a timely answer to the allegations admitting to suspension in Minnesota.<sup>1</sup> The respondent did not request a hearing, and the Disciplinary Counsels for EOIR and the DHS have moved for summary adjudication. Because there are no material issues of fact in dispute, we agree that summary proceedings are appropriate in this case. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 1003.103(b)(2) and 8 C.F.R. § 1003.106(a).

The Notice of Intent to Discipline proposes that the respondent be indefinitely suspended from practicing before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS. The proposed sanction is appropriate, in light of the respondent's indefinite suspension in Minnesota. We therefore will honor the proposed discipline and will order the respondent indefinitely suspended from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS. Further, as the respondent is currently suspended under our May 19, 2020, order of suspension, we will deem his suspension to have commenced on that date.

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<sup>1</sup> In his answer, the respondent denied that he had been disbarred in Arizona, but the Joint Notice of Intent to Discipline does not contain an allegation asserting that the respondent has been disbarred in Arizona.

ORDER: The Board hereby indefinitely suspends the respondent from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS, effective May 19, 2020.

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.

*Ellen Riebowitz*

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FOR THE BOARD