

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

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File: D2021-0051

Date: JUN 30 2021

In re: Gregory Scott HOOVER, 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

ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT: Kenneth C. Dobson, Esquire

The respondent will be suspended from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for 30 days, effective March 26, 2021. In addition, the respondent's request for reinstatement will be granted, and he will be reinstated to practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS as of the date of this order.

On March 19, 2021, the Supreme Court of Washington suspended the respondent from the practice of law in Washington for 30 days, effective March 26, 2021. On March 31, 2021, the Disciplinary Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) and the Disciplinary Counsel for the DHS jointly petitioned for the respondent's immediate suspension from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS. We granted the petition on May 18, 2021.

On April 21, 2021, the respondent filed an answer to the Notice of Intent to Discipline and admitted the allegations against him. He also notified the Disciplinary Counsels that he had been suspended from the practice of law in Oregon for 30 days due to his suspension in Washington. On May 17, 2021, the respondent filed a supplemental answer to the Notice of Intent to Discipline in which he consented to the 30 day suspension proposed by the Disciplinary Counsels and requested that he be simultaneously reinstated to practice in light of his reinstatement to practice in both Washington and Oregon. On May 28, 2021, the respondent filed a motion to set aside the May 18, 2021, order of suspension in the interest of justice.

The Disciplinary Counsels oppose the respondent's motion to set aside the immediate suspension order. The Disciplinary Counsels, however, ask that we issue a final order suspending the respondent for 30 days, effective March 26, 2021. The Disciplinary Counsels further do not oppose the respondent's request for simultaneous reinstatement.

The respondent has not established that good cause justifies setting aside our May 18, 2021, order. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.103(a)(4). The Disciplinary Counsels for EOIR and the DHS have submitted proof that the respondent was suspended from the practice of law in Washington and this suspension justified immediate suspension. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.103(a)(4).



Further, the respondent has consented to the 30-day suspension proposed in the Notice of Intent to Discipline, and this discipline is appropriate in light of the respondent's suspension in Washington. We therefore will honor the proposed discipline and will order the respondent suspended from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS for 30 days. Moreover, as the respondent complied with the notice requirements of 8 C.F.R. § 1003.103(c), we will deem his suspension to have commenced on March 26, 2021, the date his suspension became effective in Washington.

In addition, because the respondent has been reinstated to the practice of law in Washington and Oregon and now meets the definition of attorney contained in 8 C.F.R. § 1001.1(f), and because the Disciplinary Counsels do not oppose his request for simultaneous reinstatement, we will grant the respondent's motion for reinstatement. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 1003.107(a). The respondent's reinstatement will be effective immediately upon issuance of this order.

ORDER: The respondent's motion to set aside our May 18, 2021, immediate suspension order is denied.

FURTHER ORDER: The Board hereby suspends the respondent from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS for 30 days, effective March 26, 2021.

FURTHER 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 the Executive Office for Immigration Review 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-26, or Form EOIR-27), even in cases in which he was counsel prior to his suspension.



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FOR THE BOARD