

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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

MATTER OF:

Roel ALANIS, D2021-0195

Respondent

FILED

DEC 29 2021

ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT: Pro se

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

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

IN PRACTITIONER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS
Notice of Intent to Discipline before the Board of Immigration Appeals

Before: Liebowitz, Appellate Immigration Judge; Brown, Temporary Appellate
Immigration Judge; Manuel, Temporary Appellate Immigration Judge

Opinion by Appellate Immigration Judge Liebowitz

LIEBOWITZ, Appellate Immigration Judge

The respondent will be disbarred from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals (Board), the Immigration Courts, and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), effective as of the date of the Board's December 9, 2021, amended immediate suspension order.

On August 27, 2021, the Supreme Court of Texas issued an order accepting the respondent's resignation from the practice of law in Texas in lieu of discipline, effective August 27, 2021. On September 27, 2021, the Disciplinary Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review and the Disciplinary Counsel for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) filed a Joint Notice of Intent to Discipline, as well as a Joint Petition for Immediate Suspension, based upon the respondent's resignation from the practice of law in Texas, effective December 9, 2021.

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. *See* 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 practice before the Board, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS, effective as of the date of the Board's immediate suspension order. Because the respondent failed to timely 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 resignation from the practice of law in Texas, which, according to Part X of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure, is treated as a disbarment for all purposes. We will honor the proposed discipline and will order the respondent disbarred from practice before the Board, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS, effective December 9, 2021.

ORDER: The Board of Immigration Appeals hereby disbars the respondent from practice before the Board, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS, effective December 9, 2021.

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.