

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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

MATTER OF:

Darryl Russel ARMSTRONG, D2022-0002

Respondent

FILED
MAR 02 2022

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: Creppy, Appellate Immigration Judge; Liebowitz, Appellate Immigration
Judge; Manuel, Temporary Appellate Immigration Judge¹

Opinion by Appellate Immigration Judge Liebowitz

LIEBOWITZ, Appellate Immigration Judge

The respondent will be disbarred from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), effective February 1, 2022.

On December 21, 2020, the Court of Appeals of Maryland disbarred the respondent from the practice of law in Maryland. On January 13, 2022, the Disciplinary Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review 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. We granted the petition on February 1, 2022.

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 of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS. Because the

¹ Temporary Appellate Immigration Judges sit pursuant to appointment by the Attorney General. *See generally* 8 C.F.R. § 1003.1(a)(1), (4).

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 Maryland. 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 remains suspended under our February 1, 2022, order of immediate suspension, his disbarment will be effective as of that date.

ORDER: The Board hereby disbars the respondent from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS, effective February 1, 2022.

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.