

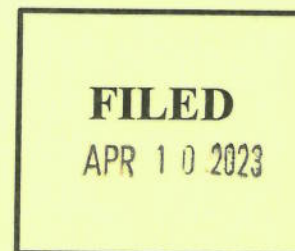
NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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

MATTER OF:

Steve Sungsoo CHANG, D2023-0028

Respondent



ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT: Pro se

ON BEHALF OF DHS: Toinette M. Mitchell, Disciplinary Counsel

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

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

Before: Malphrus, Chief Appellate Immigration Judge, Liebowitz, Appellate Immigration Judge,
Noferi, Temporary Appellate Immigration Judge¹

Opinion by Liebowitz, Appellate Immigration Judge

LIEBOWITZ, Appellate Immigration Judge

The respondent will be indefinitely suspended from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”), effective March 7, 2023.

On July 8, 2022, the State Bar Court of California, Review Department – Los Angeles issued an order suspending the respondent from the practice of law indefinitely, effective August 1, 2022. On February 9, 2023, the Disciplinary Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review and the Disciplinary Counsel for DHS jointly petitioned for the respondent’s immediate suspension from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and DHS. We granted the Joint Petition for Immediate Suspension on March 7, 2023.

The respondent was required to file a timely answer to the allegations contained in the Joint Notice of Intent to Discipline but has failed to do so. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.105(d)(1). The respondent’s failure to file a response within the time prescribed in the Joint 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)-(2).

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

The Joint Notice of Intent to Discipline proposes that the respondent be suspended indefinitely, but for no less than 6 months,² from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and DHS, effective as of the date of the Board's immediate suspension order. Because the respondent did not file an answer, the regulations direct us to adopt the proposed sanction contained in the Joint 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 of indefinite suspension is appropriate in light of the respondent's suspension in California. We will honor the proposed discipline and will order the respondent indefinitely suspended from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and DHS, effective March 7, 2023.

ORDER: The Board hereby suspends the respondent from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and DHS, effective March 7, 2023.

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 DHS.

FURTHER ORDER: The respondent may petition this Board for reinstatement to practice before the Board, the Immigration Courts, and DHS under 8 C.F.R. § 1003.107.

² The Disciplinary Counsels state if the respondent submits proof of passage of the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination in California, he could potentially be reinstated in California.