

Falls Church, Virginia 20530

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File: D2014-202

Date:

AUG 13 2014

In re: MARIA CORA AVINANTE, ATTORNEY

IN PRACTITIONER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

PETITION FOR IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION

ON BEHALF OF EOIR: Jennifer J. Barnes, Disciplinary Counsel

ON BEHALF OF DHS: Diane H. Kier  
Associate Legal Advisor

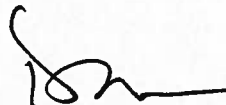
On June 12, 2014, the Supreme Court of Hawai'i issued an order suspending the respondent from the practice of law in the state for 120 days.<sup>1</sup> Consequently, on July 17, 2014, the Disciplinary Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review petitioned for the respondent's immediate suspension from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals and the Immigration Courts. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) then asked that the respondent be similarly suspended from practice before that agency. The petition will be granted.

ORDER: The petition is granted, and the respondent is hereby suspended, absent a showing of good cause, from the practice of law before the Board, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS pending final disposition of this proceeding. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.103(a) (2013).

FURTHER ORDER: The respondent is directed to promptly notify, in writing, any clients with cases currently pending before the Board, the Immigration Courts, or the DHS that the respondent has been suspended from practicing before these bodies.

FURTHER ORDER: The respondent shall maintain records to evidence compliance with this order.

FURTHER ORDER: The Board directs that the contents of this notice be made available to the public, including at Immigration Courts and appropriate offices of the DHS.



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FOR THE BOARD

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<sup>1</sup> The Notice of Intent to Discipline states that the Supreme Court of the State of Hawai'i suspended the respondent from the practice of law for 6 months and, consequently, asks that the respondent be suspended from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals and the Immigration Courts for 6 months. The order from the Supreme Court of Hawai'i, however, appears to suspend the respondent from practice for 120 days, despite the recommendation of the Disciplinary Board that she be suspended for 6 months.