

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

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File: D2006-095

Date:  SEP 14 2007

In re: RICKEY A. WATSON, ATTORNEY

IN PRACTITIONER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

MOTION

ON BEHALF OF GENERAL COUNSEL: Jennifer J. Barnes, Bar Counsel

ON BEHALF OF DHS: Eileen M. Connolly, Appellate Counsel

ORDER:

PER CURIAM. The respondent's unopposed motion for reinstatement to practice will be granted.

On February 20, 2006, the District Court of Harris County, Texas, 164<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, suspended the respondent from the practice of law for a period of 12 months, effective May 15, 2006.

Consequently, on June 28, 2006, the Office of General 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. On July 5, 2006, the Department of Homeland Security (the "DHS") asked that the respondent be similarly suspended from practice before that agency. Therefore, on July 12, 2006, the Board suspended the respondent from practicing before the Board, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS pending final disposition of this proceeding. On September 13, 2006, the Board issued a final order suspending the respondent from practice for a period of 12 months, and deemed the suspension to have commenced on July 12, 2006.

The respondent moves that the Board reinstate him to practice before the Board, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS. The Office of General Counsel does not oppose the petition for reinstatement, observing that the respondent has presented evidence that he is currently eligible to practice law in Texas.

Given that the respondent's motion is unopposed, the Board finds that the respondent should be and hereby is reinstated to practice before the Board, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS, as of the date of this order. Because the respondent has been reinstated, public notices regarding the respondent's suspension should reflect this reinstatement. If the respondent wishes to represent a party before the DHS or Board, he must file a Notice of Appearance (Form G-28 or Form EOIR-27), including any case in which he was formerly counsel, prior to his suspension.

  
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FOR THE BOARD