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NEWS RELEASE

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Feb. 2, 2010

EOIR Announces Latest Disciplinary Actions Under Rules of Professional Conduct *Two Attorneys Immediately Suspended; Six Receive Final Orders*

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) has recently taken disciplinary action against eight attorneys for violations of the Rules of Professional Conduct for immigration practitioners.

EOIR announces these disciplinary actions to inform the public about practitioners who are no longer authorized to represent clients before an immigration tribunal. In most cases, EOIR has disciplined the practitioner based on either a criminal conviction or a sanction imposed by another jurisdiction.

Disciplinary proceedings begin when the Office of the General Counsel of either EOIR or the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, files a Notice of Intent to Discipline with EOIR's Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA). The disciplinary action can result in the suspension or expulsion of a practitioner before the immigration courts, the BIA and DHS. Before a suspended or expelled attorney can resume the practice of law before the immigration courts, the BIA and DHS, the BIA must reinstate that attorney.

EOIR has recently taken the following disciplinary actions:

Immediate Suspensions

The BIA ordered the immediate suspension of the following attorneys:

- **Beth Ann Broyles:** The U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, Norfolk Division, convicted Ms. Broyles of conspiracy to commit offenses against the United States, including visa fraud and inducing immigrants to come illegally to the United States. The BIA granted the government's petition for immediate suspension on Nov. 19, 2009, based on Ms. Broyles' conviction in Virginia and pending final disposition of her case.

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Attorney Discipline

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- **Karen Jaffe:** The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit suspended Ms. Jaffe from the practice of law for conduct unbecoming a member of the bar. The BIA granted the government's petition for immediate suspension on Nov. 17, 2009, based on Ms. Jaffe's suspension in the 2nd Circuit and pending final disposition of her case.

Final Orders of Discipline

- **Lilian Asante:** A final order of Dec. 3, 2009, expels Ms. Asante from practice before immigration tribunals, effective Oct. 29, 2009, based on her conviction in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio for knowingly and unlawfully entering into marriage for the purposes of evading a provision of the immigration laws.
- **Namir M. Daman:** A final order of Nov. 6, 2009, expels Mr. Daman from practice before immigration tribunals, effective Dec. 22, 2008, based on his suspension in Michigan for pleading guilty in the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan, to marriage fraud and aiding and abetting.
- **Lisa J. Jackson:** A final order of Nov. 23, 2009, suspends Ms. Jackson from practice before immigration tribunals for 12 months, effective May 15, 2008, based on her suspension by the Superior Court, Judicial District of Hartford, Conn., for one year and one day for violating several of the state's Rules of Professional Conduct.
- **Paul M. Ngobeni:** A final order of Nov. 19, 2009, suspends Mr. Ngobeni indefinitely from practice before immigration tribunals, effective Feb. 24, 2006, based on his disbarment in New York state for violations of the state's Rules of Professional Conduct.
- **Uchenna Samuel Ogbu-Nwobodo:** A final order of Nov. 19, 2009, suspends Mr. Ogbu-Nwobodo from practice before immigration tribunals for 60 days, effective Nov. 4, 2009, based on his 60-day suspension in California for failing to perform legal services with competence and improper conduct involving termination of his employment.
- **David E. Parker:** A final order of Dec. 8, 2009, suspends Mr. Parker from practice before immigration tribunals for seven years, effective June 15, 2009, based on a criminal conviction in Illinois, which resulted in his resignation and the striking of his name from the roll of attorneys in New York state.

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Background

The Rules of Professional Conduct appear in Title 8 of the Code of Federal Regulations (8 C.F.R. §§ 1003 and 1292). They include provisions specifying grounds for disciplinary action, requirements for receiving and investigating complaints, and procedures for conducting hearings. The rules also authorize the BIA to suspend immediately a practitioner who has been subject to disbarment, suspension or resignation with an admission of misconduct as imposed by a federal or state court, or who has been convicted of a serious crime, pending a summary proceeding and final sanction. The Rules of Professional Conduct are available at http://www.usdoj.gov/eoir/vll/fedreg/2000_2001/fr27jn00R.pdf and http://www.usdoj.gov/eoir/vll/fedreg/2008_2009/fr18dec08c.pdf.

A list of disciplined practitioners is available at <http://www.usdoj.gov/eoir/profcond/chart.htm>. In an effort to provide more detailed information about individual attorney discipline cases, every immediate suspension or final order an attorney receives is accessible by clicking on the highlighted data link in this list.

Additional information about the Attorney Discipline Program can be found at <http://www.usdoj.gov/eoir/press/00/profcond.htm> and <http://www.usdoj.gov/eoir/press/09/AttorneyDisciplineFactSheet.pdf>.

— EOIR —

The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) is an agency within the Department of Justice. Under delegated authority from the Attorney General, immigration judges and the Board of Immigration Appeals interpret and adjudicate immigration cases according to United States immigration laws. EOIR's immigration judges conduct administrative court proceedings in immigration courts located throughout the nation. They determine whether foreign-born individuals—who are charged by the Department of Homeland Security with violating immigration law—should be ordered removed from the United States or should be granted relief from removal and be permitted to remain in this country. The Board of Immigration Appeals primarily reviews appeals of decisions by immigration judges. EOIR's Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer adjudicates immigration-related employment cases. EOIR is committed to ensuring fairness in all of the cases it adjudicates.