

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

File: D2001-065

Date: JUL 6 2001

In re: JULIA A. SOININEN, ATTORNEY

IN PRACTITIONER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

PETITION FOR IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION

ON BEHALF OF GENERAL COUNSEL: Jennifer J. Barnes, Esquire

ON BEHALF OF SERVICE: Javier Balasquide, Appellate Counsel

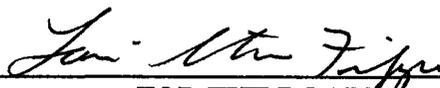
ORDER:

PER CURIAM. On or about May 25, 1999, the respondent entered a guilty plea to one count of theft (petit larceny), in violation of Virginia Code § 18.2-96, in the General District Court, Fairfax County Virginia. The crime is a "serious crime" within the meaning of 8 C.F.R. § 3.102(h). On September 9, 1999, the District of Columbia Court of Appeals issued an order suspending the respondent on an interim basis from the practice of law. During the effective period of her interim suspension, the respondent is alleged to have filed five separate notices of appearance with the Executive Office for Immigration Review, in which she misrepresented her status as a member in good standing of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals.

Consequently, on June 12, 2001, the Office of General Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review initiated disciplinary proceedings against the respondent and petitioned for the respondent's immediate suspension from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals and the Immigration Courts. On June 18, 2001, the Immigration and Naturalization Service asked that the respondent be similarly suspended from practice before that agency.

The petition is granted, on the basis of the evidence of the theft conviction and of the order of suspension from the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, 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 Service pending final disposition of this proceeding. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 3.103(a).

Accordingly, the respondent is directed to promptly notify, in writing, any clients with cases currently pending before the Board, the Immigration Courts, or the Service that the respondent has been suspended from practicing before these bodies. The respondent shall maintain records to evidence compliance with this order. Moreover, we direct that the contents of this notice be made available to the public, including at Immigration Courts and appropriate offices of the Service.



FOR THE BOARD