

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

File: D2016-0025

Date:

APR 22 2016

In re: BONNIE MONIQUE YOUN, ATTORNEY

IN PRACTITIONER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

ON BEHALF OF DHS: Catherine M. O'Connell, Disciplinary Counsel

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

The respondent will be disbarred from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

On January 20, 2016, the respondent was convicted, on the basis of a guilty plea, of a serious crime within the meaning of 8 C.F.R. § 1003.102(h). That is, she was convicted in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia, Atlanta Division, of violating 18 U.S.C. § 1028 by counseling an individual to knowingly possess a false identification document, with the intent that this document be used to defraud the United States. Consequently, on March 4, 2016, the Disciplinary Counsel for the DHS petitioned for the respondent's immediate suspension from practice before that agency. The Disciplinary Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) then asked that the respondent be similarly suspended from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals and the Immigration Courts. We granted the immediate suspension order on March 17, 2016. On March 30, 2016, we temporarily set aside the immediate suspension order, which went back into effect on April 2, 2016.

The respondent filed a timely answer concerning the Notice of Intent to Discipline. The respondent acknowledges that she is subject to discipline by the Board, and requests that she be disbarred. As there is no material issue of fact in dispute, the Board will enter a final order of discipline in this case. The proposed sanction of disbarment is appropriate in light of the circumstances. Accordingly, the Board will honor that proposal. As the respondent is currently under our order of immediate suspension which went back into effect on April 2, 2016, we will deem the respondent's disbarment to have commenced on that date.¹

¹ The respondent provides evidence that she was convicted of a single misdemeanor count, when she was charged with three felony counts. She notes that she has filed a petition for voluntary discipline with the State Bar of Georgia, and she submits letters of support from fellow attorneys and members of the community. Such evidence may be presented to the Board for its consideration if the respondent seeks to be reinstated to practice to the Board, Immigration Courts, and DHS, after at least one year has passed, and when she meets the regulatory definition of attorney. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.107(b).

ORDER: The Board hereby disbars the respondent from practice before the Board, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS.

FURTHER ORDER: The respondent is instructed to maintain compliance with the directives set forth in our prior orders. The respondent is also instructed to notify the Board of any further disciplinary action against her.

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

FURTHER ORDER: As the Board earlier imposed an immediate suspension order in this case, today's order of the Board becomes effective immediately. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.105(d)(2).


FOR THE BOARD