

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

File: D2016-0026

Date: MAY 04 2016

In re: JOSEPHINE NYABOKE ANASSI, 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 suspended from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for one year.

On December 14, 2015, the District 4 Grievance Committee, Evidentiary Panel 4-2, State Bar of Texas issued an Agreed Judgment of Partially Probated Suspension. The order suspended the respondent from the practice of law for 3 years, with the respondent actively suspended from the practice of law for one year beginning January 1, 2016, and ending December 31, 2016. Consequently, on March 23, 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 petition on April 6, 2016.

The respondent was required to file a timely answer to the allegations contained in the Notice of Intent to Discipline but has failed to do so. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 1003.105 (2013). The respondent's failure to file a response within the time period prescribed in the Notice constitutes an admission of the allegations therein, and the respondent is now precluded from requesting a hearing on the matter. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.105.

The Notice proposes that the respondent be suspended from practicing before the Board and the Immigration Courts for one year. Because the respondent has failed to file an answer, the regulations direct the Board to adopt the proposed sanction contained in the Notice, unless there are considerations that compel us to digress from that proposal. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.105.

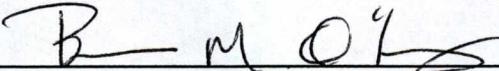
The proposed sanction is appropriate in light of the respondent's suspension in Texas. Accordingly, the Board will honor that proposal. As the respondent is currently under our April 6, 2016, order of suspension, we will deem the respondent's suspension to have commenced on that date.

ORDER: The Board hereby suspends the respondent from practice before the Board, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS for one year.

FURTHER ORDER: The respondent is instructed to maintain compliance with the directives set forth in our prior order. 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