

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

File: D2017-0097

Date: JUN 09 2017

In re: WILLIE JAMES MAHONE, 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 indefinitely suspended from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals ("Board"), the Immigration Courts, and the Department of Homeland Security ("DHS").

On February 22, 2017, the respondent was indefinitely suspended from the practice of law in Maryland, by the Court of Appeals of Maryland. The Disciplinary Counsel for the DHS petitioned for the respondent's immediate suspension from practice before that agency on April 17, 2017, and stated that the respondent remains suspended from the practice of law in Maryland, as of the date of its filing. The Disciplinary Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review then asked that the respondent be similarly suspended from practice before the Board and the Immigration Courts. We granted the petition on April 28, 2017.

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. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.105. The respondent's failure to file a response within the time period prescribed in the Notice of Intent to Discipline 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(d)(1).

The Notice of Intent to Discipline proposes that the respondent be indefinitely suspended from practicing before the DHS. The Disciplinary Counsel for EOIR asks the Board to extend that discipline to practice before the Board and the Immigration Courts as well. Because the respondent has failed to file an answer, the regulations direct the Board to adopt the proposed sanction contained in the Notice of Intent to Discipline, unless there are considerations that compel us to digress from that proposal. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.105(d)(2).

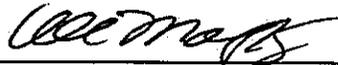
The proposed sanction is appropriate, in light of the fact that on February 22, 2017, the respondent was indefinitely suspended from the practice of law in Maryland, by the Court of Appeals of Maryland. We will deem the respondent's suspension to have commenced on April 28, 2017, the date of the Board's immediate suspension order.

ORDER: The Board hereby indefinitely suspends the respondent from practice before the Board, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS. The suspension is deemed to have commenced on April 28, 2017.

FURTHER ORDER: The respondent must maintain compliance with the directives set forth in our prior order. The respondent must notify the Board of any further disciplinary action against him.

FURTHER ORDER: The contents of the order shall be made available to the public, including at the Immigration Courts and appropriate offices of the DHS.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. M. [unclear]", is written above a horizontal line.

FOR THE BOARD