

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

File: D2016-0312

Date: JUL 20 2017

In re: Charles T. BUSSE, 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 (Board), the Immigration Courts, and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

On November 7, 2016, the Attorney Discipline Board of Michigan issued a Notice of Automatic Interim Suspension stating that the respondent was automatically suspended from the practice of law in the state of Michigan on November 3, 2016, when the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan accepted his plea of guilty to multiple felonies including conspiracy to defraud the United States in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371, bribery of a public official in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 201(b)(1)(A), (B), and (C), tax evasion in violation of 26 U.S.C. § 7201, and failure to report a currency transaction of more than \$10,000 in violation of 31 U.S.C. § 5324(b)(1). Consequently, on December 6, 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 then asked that the respondent be similarly suspended from practice before the Board and the Immigration Courts. We granted the petition on December 21, 2016.

On May 5, 2017, the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan issued a judgment in a criminal case adjudicating the respondent guilty of the crimes to which he pled guilty in November 2016. Subsequently, the Disciplinary Counsel filed a Notice of Intent to Discipline seeking the respondent's disbarment from practice before that agency.

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 disbarred 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

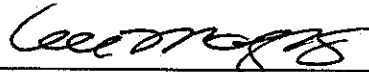
proposal. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.105(d)(2). The proposed sanction is appropriate in light of the respondent's convictions for conspiracy to defraud the United States, bribery of a public official and tax evasion, all of which qualify as serious crimes as defined in 8 C.F.R. § 1003.102(h). Further, as the respondent is currently under our December 21, 2016, order of suspension, we will deem his disbarment to have commenced on that date.

ORDER: The Board hereby disbars the respondent from practice before the Board, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS. The disbarment is deemed to have commenced on December 21, 2016.

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.



FOR THE BOARD