

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

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File: D2017-0280

Date: **SEP 13 2017**

In re: Laurence F. JOHNSON, Attorney

IN PRACTITIONER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

PETITION FOR IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION

ON BEHALF OF EOIR: Jennifer J. Barnes  
Disciplinary Counsel

ON BEHALF OF DHS: Jeannette V. Dever  
Associate Legal Advisor

On July 28, 2017, the Court of Appeals of Maryland issued an order indefinitely suspending the respondent from the practice of law in that state, effective 15 days from the date of the order. On August 17, 2017, the Disciplinary Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review petitioned for the respondent's immediate suspension from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals (Board) and the Immigration Courts. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) then asked that the respondent be similarly suspended from practice before that agency. The petition will be granted.<sup>1</sup> See 8 C.F.R. § 1003.103(a)(4) (2017).

ORDER: The petition is granted, 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 DHS pending final disposition of this proceeding. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.103(a)(4).

FURTHER ORDER: The respondent shall promptly notify, in writing, any clients with cases currently pending before the Board, the Immigration Courts, or the DHS that the respondent has been suspended from practicing before these bodies.

FURTHER ORDER: The respondent shall maintain records to evidence compliance with this order.

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



FOR THE BOARD

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<sup>1</sup> Upon good cause shown, the Board may set aside the order of immediate suspension when it appears in the interest of justice to do so. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.103(a)(4).