

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

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File: D2019-0063

Date: APR 02 2019

In re: Rogelio Vergara MORALES, ATTORNEY

IN PRACTITIONER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

PETITION FOR IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION

ON BEHALF OF EOIR: Paul A. Rodrigues, Disciplinary Counsel

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

On December 3, 2018, in the Superior Court of California, County of Riverside, a jury found the respondent guilty of multiple crimes. The crimes included burglary in violation of Cal. Penal Code § 459, delivery of a threatening letter in violation of Cal. Penal Code § 523, attempt to extort in violation of Cal. Penal Code § 524, attempted grand theft in violation of Cal. Penal Code §§ 487 and 664, attempt to record false or forged instrument in violation of Cal. Penal Code § 115, stalking in violation of Cal. Penal Code § 646.9, and contempt by disobedience of court order in violation of Cal. Penal Code § 166. The jury verdicts for counts 1 through 41 also included a finding that the crimes committed were hate crimes under Cal. Penal Code § 422.75(a).

On March 15, 2019, the Disciplinary Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review (Disciplinary Counsel for EOIR) petitioned for the respondent's immediate suspension from practice before the Immigration Courts and the Board of Immigration Appeals. In the petition, the Disciplinary Counsel for EOIR stated that the respondent had been found guilty of multiple serious crimes as defined in 8 C.F.R. § 1003.102(h) and therefore should be immediately suspended. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 1003.103(a)(1). The Disciplinary Counsel for 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)(1) and (4) (2018) (discussing grounds for immediate suspension).

ORDER: The petition is granted, and the respondent is hereby suspended from the practice of law before the Board of Immigration Appeals, 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 of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, or the DHS that the respondent has been suspended from practicing before these bodies.

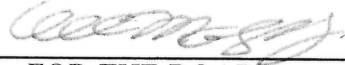
FURTHER ORDER: The respondent shall maintain records to evidence compliance with this order.

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<sup>1</sup> Upon good cause shown, the Board of Immigration Appeals 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).

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



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FOR THE BOARD