

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

File: D2019-0162

Date: JUN 27 2019

In re: Refugio Rafael PEREZ a.k.a. Refugio R. Perez, Attorney

IN PRACTITIONER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

PETITION FOR IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION

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

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

On February 28, 2019, the District 11 Grievance Committee of the State Bar of Texas issued an Agreed Judgment of Active Suspension suspending the respondent from the practice of law in Texas for 9 months. On June 17, 2019, the Disciplinary Counsel for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) petitioned for the respondent's immediate suspension from practice before that agency.¹ The Disciplinary Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review then asked that the respondent be similarly suspended from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals and the Immigration Courts. The petition will be granted.² See 8 C.F.R. §§ 1003.103(a)(1), (2), 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.

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

¹ The Disciplinary Counsel for the DHS stated that the respondent remains suspended from the practice of law in Texas.

² 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).