

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

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File: D2020-0226

Date: MAR 24 2021

In re: Valmiki Alejandro REYES, Attorney

IN PRACTITIONER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

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

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

The respondent will be suspended from the practice of law before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Court, and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for 60 days, effective November 21, 2020.

On October 22, 2020, the Supreme Court of California suspended the respondent from the practice of law in California for 1 year. The court stayed the execution of the period of suspension, placed the respondent on probation for 1 year, and suspended him for the first 60 days of his probation, effective November 21, 2020. On December 7, 2020, the Disciplinary Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) and the Disciplinary Counsel for the DHS jointly petitioned for the respondent's immediate suspension from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS. We granted the petition on January 14, 2021.

On December 29, 2020, the respondent filed an answer to the Notice of Intent to Discipline admitting the allegations against him and stating that he does not assert any ground of defense in the matter. The Disciplinary Counsels for EOIR and the DHS subsequently filed a motion for summary adjudication asking the Board to enter a final order of discipline suspending the respondent from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS for 60 days, effective November 21, 2020.

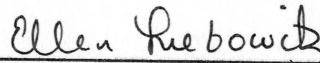
The Notice of Intent to Discipline includes the same proposed discipline, namely a 60-day suspension from practicing before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS. The proposed sanction is appropriate in light of the respondent's suspension in California. We therefore will honor the proposed discipline and will order the respondent suspended from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS for 60 days. Further, as the respondent complied with the notice requirements of 8 C.F.R. § 1003.103(c), we will deem his suspension to have commenced on November 21, 2020, the date his suspension became effective in California.

ORDER: The Board hereby suspends the respondent from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS for 60 days, effective November 21, 2020.

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.

  
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FOR THE BOARD