

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

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File: D2008-045

Date:

FEB 29 2008

In re: ANGEL O. CRUZ, ATTORNEY

IN PRACTITIONER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

PETITION FOR IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION

ON BEHALF OF GENERAL COUNSEL: Jennifer J. Barnes, Bar Counsel

ON BEHALF OF DHS: Eileen M. Connolly, Appellate Counsel

ORDER:

PER CURIAM. On January 25, 2008, an evidentiary panel of the State Bar of Texas suspended the respondent from the practice of law for 24 months, with an active suspension for 3 months, effective February 1, 2008, based on the respondent's neglect of an immigration matter, in which the time to appeal a removal order expired based on his actions.

Consequently, on February 20, 2008, the Office of General Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review petitioned for the respondent's immediate suspension from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals and the Immigration Courts. On February 21, 2008, the Department of Homeland Security (the "DHS") asked that the respondent be similarly suspended from practice before that agency.

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. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 1003.103(a).

Accordingly, the respondent is directed to 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. The respondent shall maintain records to evidence compliance with this order. Moreover, the Board directs that the contents of this notice be made available to the public, including at Immigration Courts and appropriate offices of the DHS.

  
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FOR THE BOARD