

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

File: D2007-289

Date:

OCT 25 2007

In re: STEVEN JAMES RODRIGUEZ, ATTORNEY

IN PRACTITIONER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

PETITION FOR IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION

ON BEHALF OF DHS: Rachel A. McCarthy, Bar Counsel

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

ORDER:

PER CURIAM. On October 5, 2007, in the United States District Court for the Central District of California, the respondent pled guilty to a serious crime concerning immigration laws. Specifically, the respondent pled guilty to one count of making false statements, in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1001 and 2(b).

Consequently, on October 17, 2007, the Department of Homeland Security (the "DHS"), initiated disciplinary proceedings against the respondent and petitioned for the respondent's immediate suspension from practice before the DHS. On October 18, 2007, the Office of General Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) asked that the respondent be similarly suspended from practice before EOIR, including the Board and Immigration Courts.

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), 1292.3(c).

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, we direct that the contents of this notice be made available to the public, including at Immigration Courts and appropriate offices of the DHS.



FOR THE BOARD