

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

File: D2000-015

Date: OCT 23 2000

In re: NICHOLAS GRAPSAS, ATTORNEY

IN PRACTITIONER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

PETITION FOR IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION

ON BEHALF OF GENERAL COUNSEL: Jennifer Barnes, Esquire

ON BEHALF OF SERVICE: Barry O'Melinn, Appellate Counsel

ORDER:

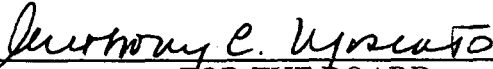
PER CURIAM. On December 3, 1999, the Supreme Court of Wisconsin suspended the respondent from the practice of law in that state for a period of 6 months.

Consequently, on August 18, 2000, the Office of General Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review (OGC) initiated disciplinary proceedings against the respondent by issuing and properly serving a Notice of Intent to Discipline. On August 24, 2000, the Immigration and Naturalization Service moved to join in the disciplinary action. On September 15, 2000, we suspended the respondent from practicing before the Board, the Immigration Courts, and the Service pending final disposition of this proceeding.

The respondent was required to file a timely answer to the allegations contained in the Notice of Intent to Discipline. *See* 65 Fed. Reg. 39,513, 39,528 (June 27, 2000) (to be codified at 8 C.F.R. § 3.105(c)(1)). Though the respondent was properly served, the respondent has not filed an answer. *Id.* at 35,529 (to be codified at 8 C.F.R. § 3.105(d)). This failure constitutes an admission of the allegations in the Notice of Intent to Discipline. *Id.*

The OGC asks us to suspend the respondent from practice before the Executive Office for Immigration Review for a period of 6 months, and the Service asks for that discipline to extend to practice before it as well. We find this sanction warranted in light of the Supreme Court of Wisconsin's action. *See id.* Accordingly, we grant the requests of the OGC and the Service. As the respondent is currently under our September 15, 2000, order of suspension, we will deem the 6 month period of suspension to have commenced on that date. The respondent is instructed to maintain compliance with the directives set forth in our prior order.

The respondent will be reinstated to practice after the expiration of this suspension provided that the respondent meets the definition of an attorney or representative as set forth in 8 C.F.R. §§ 1.1(f) and (j). See 65 Fed. Reg. 39,513, 39,530 (June 27, 2000) (to be codified at 8 C.F.R. § 3.107(a)).



FOR THE BOARD