

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

File: D2009-170

Date:

OCT 29 2009

In re: LILIAN ASANTE, ATTORNEY

IN PRACTITIONER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

PETITION FOR IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION

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

ON BEHALF OF EOIR: Jennifer J. Barnes, Disciplinary Counsel

On September 28, 2009, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, the court entered a guilty plea to a "serious crime" within the meaning of 8 C.F.R. § 1003.102(h), relating to the respondent's immigration law practice. That is, the respondent pled guilty to the felony of knowingly and unlawfully entering into marriage for the purpose of evading a provision of the immigration laws of the United States, in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1325(c) and 18 U.S.C. § 2. Consequently, on October 8, 2009, 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. The Disciplinary Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) then asked that the respondent be similarly suspended from practice before EOIR, including the Board and Immigration Courts. The petition will be granted.

ORDER: 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).

FURTHER ORDER: 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.

FURTHER ORDER: The respondent shall maintain records to evidence compliance with this order.

FURTHER ORDER: 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.



FOR THE BOARD