## NOT FOR PUBLICATION

U.S. Department of Justice Executive Office for Immigration Review Board of Immigration Appeals

MATTER OF:

Benjamin Behnam TARIRI, D2023-0094

Respondent

**FILED** 

OCT 16 2023

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

ON BEHALF OF DHS: Toinette M. Mitchell, Disciplinary Counsel

IN PRACTITIONER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS
Notice of Intent to Discipline Before the Board of Immigration Appeals

Before: Malphrus, Deputy Chief Appellate Immigration Judge; Creppy, Appellate Immigration Judge; Clark, Appellate Immigration Judge<sup>1</sup>

Opinion by Malphrus, Deputy Chief Appellate Immigration Judge

MALPHRUS, Deputy Chief Appellate Immigration Judge

The respondent will be disbarred from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the Department of Homeland Security ("DHS"), effective immediately.

On December 19, 2022, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County, temporarily suspended the respondent from the practice of law in Massachusetts pending further order of the court, with conditions, effective immediately. On May 1, 2023, the Disciplinary Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review ("EOIR") and the Disciplinary Counsel for the Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") jointly petitioned for the respondent's immediate suspension from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and DHS. We granted this petition on May 17, 2023.

On June 26, 2023, the Supreme Judicial Court issued a final order disbarring the respondent from the practice of law in Massachusetts, effective immediately. On July 27, 2023, the Disciplinary Counsels for EOIR and DHS filed a Joint Notice of Intent to Discipline based on the respondent's disbarment.

The respondent was required to file a timely answer to the allegations contained in the Joint Notice of Intent to Discipline but has failed to do so. See 8 C.F.R. § 1003.105. The respondent's failure to file a response within the time prescribed in the Joint Notice of Intent to Discipline

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Temporary Appellate Immigration Judges sit pursuant to appointment by the Attorney General. See 8 C.F.R. § 1003.1(a)(4)

constitutes an admission of the allegations therein, and the respondent is now precluded from requesting a hearing on the matter. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.105(d)(1).

The Joint Notice of Intent to Discipline proposes that the respondent be disbarred from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and DHS, effective immediately. Because the respondent has failed to file an answer, the regulations direct us to adopt the proposed sanction contained in the Joint Notice of Intent to Discipline, unless there are considerations that compel us to digress from that proposal. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.105(d)(2).

The proposed sanction is appropriate in light of the respondent's disbarment from the practice law in Massachusetts. We therefore will honor the proposed discipline and will order the respondent disbarred from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and DHS. Further, as the respondent remains suspended pursuant to our May 17, 2023, order, and he has been disbarred from practicing law in Massachusetts since June 26, 2023, his disbarment will be effective immediately.

ORDER: The Board hereby disbars the respondent from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and DHS, effective immediately.

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 DHS.

FURTHER ORDER: The respondent may petition this Board for reinstatement to practice before the Board, the Immigration Courts, and DHS under 8 C.F.R. § 1003.107.