

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

File: D2016-0024

Date:

MAR 31 2016

In re: MARGARITA MKRTCHYAN, ATTORNEY

IN PRACTITIONER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

PETITION FOR IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION

ON BEHALF OF DHS: Catherine M. O'Connell, Disciplinary Counsel

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

On February 1, 2016, the respondent was convicted, on the basis of a guilty plea, of a serious crime within the meaning of 8 C.F.R. § 1003.102(h). That is, she was convicted of obstruction of court orders, in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1509, in the United States District Court for the Central District of California. Consequently, on March 14, 2016, the Disciplinary Counsel for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) petitioned for the respondent's immediate suspension from practice before that agency. The Disciplinary Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) then asked that the respondent be similarly suspended from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals and the 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. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.103(a).

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