

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

File: D2012-093

Date: JUN 21 2012

In re: AQUAH MOIRA SINGH a.k.a. Aquah Moira Singh-Meneghini, Attorney

IN PRACTITIONER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

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

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

The respondent will be indefinitely suspended from practice before the Board, Immigration Courts, and Department of Homeland Security (the "DHS").

On April 30, 2012, the DHS filed a Notice of Intent to Discipline in this case.¹ The DHS alleges that disciplinary sanctions are warranted under 8 C.F.R. § 292.3(b), as set forth in 8 C.F.R. § 1003.102(f), in that the respondent knowingly or with reckless disregard made false statements about her qualifications and eligibility to practice before the DHS (Notice of Intent to Discipline, at ¶ 8).

The DHS presents a "Certification" from the Attorney Registrar for the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. She states that the respondent was transferred to inactive status on July 1, 2002, and on January 1, 2010, her status was changed to retired (Notice of Intent to Discipline, at Exh. 1). Further, the respondent "is not eligible to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and is not a member in good standing." *Id.*

The DHS alleges that since January 1, 2010, the respondent filed 15 applications or petitions associated with at least 8 Forms G-28, "Notice of Entry of Appearance of Attorney or Representative", with the DHS, in which she claimed to be eligible to appear as an attorney when she was not (Notice of Intent to Discipline, at ¶ 7, Exh. 3). Copies of the forms are presented. *Id.*

The DHS states that it sent a letter to the respondent on March 8, 2012, concerning her eligibility to appear before the DHS as an attorney, but received no response (Notice of Intent to Discipline, at ¶¶ 5-6, Exh. 2).

¹The DHS did not petition for the respondent's immediate suspension from practice pending final disposition of this proceeding, under 8 C.F.R. § 1003.103(a); 77 Fed. Reg. 2011, 2014 (Jan. 13, 2012).

The respondent was required to file a timely answer to the allegations contained in the Notice of Intent to Discipline. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.105 (2012); 8 C.F.R. § 292.3(e). *See* 77 Fed. Reg. 2011, 2014-15 (Jan. 13, 2012). The respondent's failure to file a response within the time period prescribed in the Notice 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(2012); 8 C.F.R. § 292.3(e). *See* 77 Fed. Reg. 2011, 2014-15 (Jan. 13, 2012).

The Notice of Intent to Discipline proposes that the respondent be indefinitely suspended from practice before the DHS. The Disciplinary Counsel for EOIR asks that we extend that discipline to practice before the Board and Immigration Courts as well.

As the respondent failed to file a timely answer, the regulations direct us to adopt the proposed sanction contained in the Notice, unless there are considerations that compel us to digress from that proposal. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.105(2012); 8 C.F.R. § 292.3(e). *See* 77 Fed. Reg. 2011, 2014-15 (Jan. 13, 2012).

The proposed sanction is appropriate, considering the DHS' charges, which the respondent does not dispute. 8 C.F.R. § 292.3(b); Notice of Intent to Discipline, at ¶¶ 9-12 (citing and applying American Bar Association "Standards For Imposing Lawyer Sanctions" in proposing the sanction). Accordingly, we indefinitely suspend the respondent from practice before the Board, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS.

ORDER: The respondent is indefinitely suspended from practice before the Immigration Courts, Board of Immigration Appeals, and DHS, effective 15 days from this date. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.106(c).

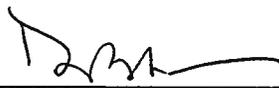
FURTHER ORDER: The respondent is directed to promptly notify, in writing, any clients with cases currently pending before the Board, the Immigration Courts, or the DHS that the respondent has been suspended from practicing before these bodies.

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

FURTHER ORDER: The respondent is instructed to notify the Board of any further disciplinary action against her.

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.

FURTHER ORDER: The respondent may petition this Board for reinstatement to practice before the Board, Immigration Courts, and DHS under 8 C.F.R. § 1003.107(2012); 77 Fed. Reg. 2011, 2015 (Jan. 13, 2012).



FOR THE BOARD