

Falls Church, Virginia 20530

File: D2013-122

Date:

MAY 13 2014

In re: DOUNNISEI K. GBALAZEH, ATTORNEY

IN PRACTITIONER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

PETITION FOR IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION

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

ON BEHALF OF DHS: Diane H. Kier
Associate Legal Advisor

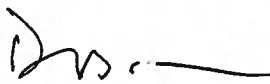
On April 21, 2014, the Disciplinary Counsel for the Executive Office for Immigration Review petitioned for the respondent's immediate suspension from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals and the Immigration Courts. The Department of Homeland Security (the "DHS") then asked that the respondent be similarly suspended from practice before that agency. The Disciplinary Counsel for EOIR presents an April 9, 2014, "Certificate" from the Executive Director of the Louisiana State Bar Association, who states that the respondent is not an active member in good standing of the Louisiana State Bar Association. That is, the respondent is ineligible to practice law in Louisiana, due to non-payment of membership dues and an assessment in 2008, non-compliance with a Trust Account Disclosure Form in 2008, and non-compliance with mandatory continuing legal education requirements in 2010. 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)(2013).

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