

Falls Church, Virginia 20530

---

File: D2015-048

Date: **APR 22 2015**

In re: KEITH A. PRETTYMAN, ATTORNEY

IN PRACTITIONER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

ON BEHALF OF DHS: Caitlin Miller  
Acting Disciplinary Counsel

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

The respondent will be suspended from practice before the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Immigration Courts, and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for 2 years.

On September 19, 2014, the Supreme Court of Nebraska suspended the respondent from the practice of law for 2 years. Consequently, on March 9, 2015, the Acting 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. We granted the DHS' petition on March 25, 2015.

The respondent was required to file a timely answer to the allegations contained in the Notice of Intent to Discipline but has failed to do so. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 1003.105 (2013). 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 (2013).

The Notice proposes that the respondent be suspended from practicing before the DHS for 2 years. Because the respondent has failed to file an answer, the regulations direct the Board 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 (2013).

The proposed sanction is appropriate in light of the respondent's suspension in Nebraska. In addition, because the respondent is currently under our March 25, 2015, order of suspension, we will deem the respondent's suspension to have commenced on that date.

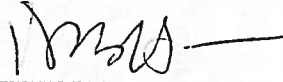
**ORDER:** The Board hereby suspends the respondent from practice before the Board, the Immigration Courts, and the DHS for 2 years.

**FURTHER ORDER:** The respondent is instructed to maintain compliance with the directives set forth in our prior order. The respondent is also instructed to notify the Board of any further disciplinary action against him.

D2015-048

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 (2013).

FURTHER ORDER: As the Board earlier imposed an immediate suspension order in this case, today's order of the Board becomes effective immediately. 8 C.F.R. § 1003.105(d)(2) (2013).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "JMS", with a horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

---

FOR THE BOARD