

IN RE: JASMIN ROJAS

NO. BD-2017-044

S.J.C. Order of Term Suspension entered by Justice Gaziano on September 28, 2017.¹

In a case of reciprocal discipline arising out of an out-of-state criminal matter, the SJC suspended a lawyer for one year and one day. The lawyer had received a six-year suspension in Connecticut based on her third conviction for operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol/drugs and a probation violation.

SUMMARY²

Jasmin Rojas (“respondent”), who was admitted to the bar of the Commonwealth on December 4, 2009, was suspended for one year and one day as a reciprocal sanction pursuant to S.J.C. Rule 4:01, § 16, based upon her suspension by the Connecticut Superior Court. The Connecticut suspension resulted from the following misconduct.

On November 13, 2015, the respondent pleaded guilty in the Connecticut Superior Court, Tolland Judicial District, to illegal operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol/drugs, in violation of CGS § 14-227a. The respondent was sentenced to six months in jail, execution suspended after two days, and eighteen months of probation. On August 8, 2016, the respondent pleaded guilty in the Tolland Court to illegal operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol/drugs, in violation of CGS § 14-227a, third offense (a felony), to operating under suspension, in violation of CGS § 14-215(c)(3) and to violation of probation, in violation of CGS § 53a-32. The respondent was sentenced to a total of six years in jail, execution suspended after thirty-one months, followed by three years of probation.

On September 16, 2016, the Connecticut Chief Disciplinary Counsel filed a presentment complaint seeking discipline of the respondent based upon the above convictions. The respondent was placed on interim suspension on November 17, 2016. After a hearing, the Tolland Court entered a Memorandum of Decision on March 15, 2017, suspending the respondent for six years, retroactive to November 17, 2016.

On April 16, 2017, bar counsel filed a Petition For Reciprocal Discipline with the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County based upon the respondent’s suspension in Connecticut. After a hearing attended by bar counsel but not the respondent, the Court (Gaziano, J.) on September 28, 2017, entered an Order of Term Suspension suspending the respondent for one year and one day, effective immediately.

¹ The complete order of the Court is available by contacting the Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County.

² Compiled by the Board of Bar Overseers based on the record filed with the Supreme Judicial Court.