

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2023-13  
CASE NO. 22-MC-22941

IN RE: MANISHA MARAJ  
FLORIDA BAR # 115758

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FILED BY CW D.C.

**Feb 6, 2023**

ANGELA E. NOBLE  
CLERK U.S. DIST. CT.  
S. D. OF FLA. - MIA

**ORDER ON FINAL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION**

On March 24, 2022, United States District Judge Donald M. Middlebrooks issued an Order Resetting Sentencing Hearing that, in part, referred attorney Manisha Maraj to the Ad Hoc Committee on Attorney Admissions, Peer Review, and Attorney Grievance for investigation concerning the attorney's conduct as counsel for the defendant in a criminal case. *See United States of America v. Omari Lindon Shakir George*, Case No. 21-cr-80103-DMM, Order Resetting Sentencing Hearing (S.D. Fla. March 24, 2022) [ECF No. 1]. Following that referral, on September 2, 2022, the Committee issued a Proposed Report and Recommendation [ECF No. 3] giving Ms. Maraj 14 days to respond in accordance with Rule 6(c)(2)(B)(ii) of the Rules Governing the Admission, Practice, Peer Review, and Discipline of Attorneys. Ms. Maraj filed a response [ECF No. 4] accepting the Committee's recommendations.

Thereafter, the Committee submitted a Final Report and Recommendation [ECF No. 5] to the Court on September 15, 2022. An Order to Show Cause [ECF No. 7] was issued on September 21, 2022, giving Ms. Maraj an opportunity to respond to the Final Report and Recommendation. Ms. Maraj filed a response [ECF No. 9] disagreeing with some of the findings by the Committee but also stating her acceptance of the Committee's recommendations.

In accordance with Rule 6(c)(2)(B)(v) of the Rules Governing the Admission, Practice,

Peer Review, and Discipline of Attorneys, Local Rules of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida, the Undersigned submitted this matter to the Court for its consideration at a regularly scheduled Judges' Meeting held on February 2, 2023. Upon review of the Final Report and Recommendation, response, and attachments, by unanimous vote of all District Judges and Senior Judges eligible to vote, the Court approved and adopted the Committee's Final Report and Recommendation in full.

Given this background, in accordance with Rule 6(c)(2)(B)(v) and the Court's inherent power to regulate membership in its bar for the protection of the public interest, *see Chambers v. NASCO, Inc.*, 501 U.S. 32, 43 (1991) (“[A] federal court has the power to control admission to its bar and to discipline attorneys who appear before it.”),


**IT IS ORDERED** that the Committee's Final Report and Recommendation is **ADOPTED**, and the matter is **CLOSED**.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED**, consistent with the Final Report and Recommendation, as follows:

1. Ms. Maraj is prohibited from taking new cases in the Southern District of Florida for a period of six months.
2. Ms. Maraj shall immediately begin to confer with a mentor to receive guidance respecting her law practice management and her representation of criminal defendants in federal court, and in conjunction therewith, will provide the name and contact information of the mentor to the Committee.
3. Within 30 days Ms. Maraj shall take either The Florida Bar CLE course entitled “Masters Seminar on Ethics 2021” (Course 4375) or The Florida Bar CLE course entitled “Masters Seminar on Ethics 2022” (Course 5698).

4. Ms. Maraj is required to self-report to the Committee, for a period of one year, all instances in which she sought to continue a hearing in federal court, and all instances, in state and federal court, in which she missed a deadline, missed a hearing, or had a show cause order issued with respect to her conduct.

**DONE AND ORDERED** in Miami, Florida, this 6th day of February, 2023.

  
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**CECILIA M. ALTONAGA**  
**CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE**

- c: All Miami Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals Judges  
All Southern District of Florida District Judges  
All Southern District of Florida Bankruptcy Judges  
All Southern District of Florida Magistrate Judges  
United States Attorney  
Circuit Executive  
Federal Public Defender  
Clerks of Court – District, Bankruptcy and 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit  
Florida Bar and National Lawyer Regulatory Data Bank  
Library  
William C. Hearon, Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Attorney Admissions, Peer Review,  
and Attorney Grievance  
Manisha Maraj