



U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

September 14, 2007

# Advisory

## **USCIS TO WELCOME 23,000 NEW CITIZENS DURING CONSTITUTION WEEK** *USCIS and National Park Service Welcome 45 Servicemembers at Cabrillo National Monument*

SAN DIEGO – U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will swear in 45 Sailors and Marines at Cabrillo National Monument in celebration of Citizenship Day on Monday, September 17, 2007.

U.S. District Judge Roger T. Benitez will swear in the 45 new U.S. citizens who hail from the following 16 countries: Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Fiji, Ghana, Jamaica, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, Philippines, St. Kitts & Nevis, Ukraine, and Venezuela.

Rear Admiral Patrick McGrath, who is the Deputy Commander, Navy Region Southwest, U.S. Navy and a Deputy District Attorney, San Diego County District Attorney's Office, will be the keynote speaker. USCIS Field Office Director Vernon Duncan will welcome California's newest citizens.

Last year, more than 700,000 were sworn in as U.S. citizens during naturalization ceremonies. That number includes 13,504 naturalized in San Diego and nearly 7,000 members of the armed forces who naturalized both in the U.S. and abroad through an expedited process stemming from their military service.

**WHO:**                    **The Honorable Roger T. Benitez**  
                              **Rear Admiral Patrick McGrath**  
                              **Vernon Duncan, USCIS Field Office Director**

**DATE & TIME:**      **Monday, September 17, 2007 at 10 a.m.**

**LOCATION:**            **Cabrillo National Monument**  
                              **1800 Cabrillo Memorial Drive**  
                              **End of Catalina Blvd. (Hwy 209)**  
                              **San Diego, CA 92106**

**CONTACTS:**        **Marie Sebrechts, USCIS Regional Media Manager 949.500.1544**  
                              **John Ramirez, USCIS Community Relations Officer 619.921.5186**

Applicants for citizenship will arrive at 9 a.m. Media are strongly encouraged to arrive early to interview applicants before the ceremony. Please bring your press credentials and a business card to expedite check in.

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