



October 2, 2006

Press Release

Lori Scialabba to Lead USCIS' Refugee, Asylum and International Operations Directorate

WASHINGTON – Director Emilio T. Gonzalez today announced the appointment of Lori Scialabba as the Associate Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Refugee, Asylum and International Operations Directorate effective October 1. In this USCIS leadership role, Ms. Scialabba will be responsible for overseeing the asylum and refugee programs, the administration of USCIS international operations and leading approximately 800 employees worldwide.

“Lori Scialabba is a highly qualified and dedicated official with two decades of outstanding public service at the Department of Justice,” remarked Director Emilio Gonzalez. “She brings a wealth of management and immigration expertise to USCIS, and we are privileged to have her as part of our leadership team at USCIS.”

Before joining DHS, Ms. Scialabba most recently served as Chairman of the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) at the Department of Justice, Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) since August 2002. She was appointed to the Board in March 1998, and was appointed Vice Chairman in June 1999. During her tenure, she had responsibility for day-to-day operations of the Board and expertly managed the BIA reorganization and the streamlining of more than 120,000 cases.

Ms. Scialabba began her career with the Department of Justice (DOJ) in October 1985 through the Attorney General's Honor Program and served as a trial attorney for the former Immigration and Naturalization Service in Chicago, where she litigated deportation cases. From 1986 to 1989, she served as Assistant General Counsel for the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) Headquarters. In 1989, she joined the Office of Immigration Litigation, Civil Division at DOJ as a trial attorney. Ms. Scialabba held the position of Associate General Counsel at the INS from 1991 to 1994 when she was appointed Deputy General Counsel for the INS. She held that position until her appointment to the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) in 1998.

Lori Scialabba received her undergraduate degree in 1982 from the University of Maryland and her Juris Doctorate in 1985 from Memphis State University. Ms. Scialabba was raised in Johnstown, Pennsylvania and later moved to Maryland where she currently resides.

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