



News Release

September 14, 2007

USCIS TO WELCOME 23,000 NEW CITIZENS DURING CONSTITUTION WEEK *Ceremonies Will Honor and Celebrate American Citizenship*

WASHINGTON – More than 23,000 men and women across the country will become United States citizens next week during naturalization ceremonies hosted by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to commemorate Citizenship Day and Constitution Week.

“Citizenship Day honors the brave act of 39 patriots who, on September 17, 1787, signed the Constitution of the United States and charted the course of our nation that has continued for 220 years,” said USCIS Director Emilio Gonzalez. “With the words, ‘We the People,’ they established the basic purposes of our government, forming a country that protects the rights and secures the liberties for all citizens - both native born and naturalized.”

As a nation of immigrants, the United States welcomes more than 700,000 new citizens during naturalization ceremonies each year. By raising their right hands and reciting the [Oath of Allegiance](#), each new citizen pledges their commitment to the United States. They accept the responsibility to support and defend the Constitution and protect the rights and freedoms we enjoy today for future generations.

The 125 naturalization ceremonies scheduled for Constitution Week are made possible by the 15,000 USCIS employees who work to ensure the secure delivery of quality immigration services to every individual along their journey to United States Citizenship.

Naturalization Ceremony Locations (partial list)

September 16, 2007

- [National Mall, Washington, DC](#)

September 17, 2007

- [Hartford Public Library, Hartford, Conn.](#)
- [Cantigny Park, Wheaton Ill.](#)
- [Cashman Theater, Las Vegas](#)
- [City University of New York](#)
- National Constitution Center, Philadelphia
- Cabrillo National Monument, San Diego (all military)

September 20, 2007

- Minneapolis Convention Center, Minneapolis
- [Civic Center Park, Denver](#)

September 21, 2007

- [Fort Sill, Lawton, Okla.](#)

September 24, 2007

- Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine, Baltimore (all military)

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