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NEWS RELEASE

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Baltimore Immigration Judge Participates in Naturalization Ceremonies

BALTIMORE – Immigration Judge John F. Gossart, Jr., from the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), Baltimore Immigration Court, delivered the keynote speech and administered the oath of citizenship during two naturalization ceremonies for approximately 150 candidates today at the George H. Fallon Federal Building.

The ceremonies were hosted by the Baltimore District Office of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.

Biographical Information

John F. Gossart, Jr., was appointed as an immigration judge in October 1982. He received a bachelor of science degree in 1967 from the University of Maryland and a juris doctorate in 1974 from the University of Baltimore School of Law. From 1975 through 1982, Judge Gossart served in various positions at the former Immigration and Naturalization Service, including general attorney, trial attorney, and Deputy Assistant Commissioner for Naturalization. Since 1997, he has served as an adjunct professor of immigration law at the University of Baltimore School of Law, and has guest lectured at numerous law schools and for the Maryland Institute for Continuing Professional Education of Lawyers. Also since 1997, he has been a faculty member at the National Judicial College. Judge Gossart served in the United States Army from 1967 to 1969. He is a member of both the Maryland and District of Columbia bars.

– EOIR –

EOIR is responsible for adjudicating immigration cases. Specifically, under delegated authority from the Attorney General, EOIR interprets and administers the federal immigration laws by conducting immigration court proceedings, appellate reviews, and administrative hearings. EOIR consists of three components: the Office of the Chief Immigration Judge, which is responsible for managing the numerous immigration courts located throughout the United States where immigration judges adjudicate individual cases; the Board of Immigration Appeals, which primarily conducts appellate reviews of immigration judge decisions; and the Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer, which adjudicates immigration-related employment cases. EOIR is committed to providing the fair, expeditious, and uniform application of the nation's immigration laws in all cases.

Information about EOIR immigration proceedings is available on EOIR's website at <http://www.usdoj.gov/eoir/press/subject.htm>.