



News Release

Feb 25, 2009

USCIS CELEBRATES GRAND OPENING OF NEW DALLAS OFFICE *Ceremony Includes Tribute to Immigrant Medal of Honor Recipient*

DALLAS – U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) officially opened its new district office here today. The ceremony included a tribute to Medal of Honor recipient, Staff Sergeant Archibald Mathies, an immigrant who served in the United States Army Air Corps during World War II.

“It is a distinct privilege to dedicate the USCIS workspace in our Dallas District office to the memory and valor of Staff Sergeant Mathies,” said Michael Aytes, USCIS Acting Deputy Director. “This new building is more than just bricks and mortar; it is a constant reminder of the sacrifices made by heroic immigrant service members and a tangible example of USCIS’ commitment to modernize our infrastructure.”

Opening new facilities is one of USCIS’ major undertakings under its initiative to “Build an Immigration Service for the 21st Century.” The initiative is built around a foundation of three pillars designed to enhance and sustain a secure and efficient immigration system. These pillars include: “Improving Service Delivery,” “Enhancing the Security and Integrity of the Immigration System,” and “Modernizing Business Infrastructure.”

The new office provides customers with the full range of services at one location. The design includes essential elements to ensure that everything from the layout to the location supports USCIS’ mission and goal to provide better service to our customers. The building not only incorporates accessibility and security features, it is also environmentally friendly and conveniently located near public transportation.

The ribbon cutting was followed by an all military naturalization ceremony for 18 airmen, sailors, soldiers, and Marines. Herbert Gears, Mayor, City of Irving, delivered the keynote address to the new citizens.

– USCIS –