



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
Executive Office for Immigration Review  
*Office of the Director*  
5107 Leesburg Pike, Suite 2600  
Falls Church, Virginia 22041

---

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Contact:** Office of Legislative and Public Affairs  
(703) 305-0289 Fax: (703) 605-0365  
**Internet:** [www.usdoj.gov/eoir](http://www.usdoj.gov/eoir)

---

September 19, 2008

### **Baltimore Immigration Judge Participates in Naturalization Ceremonies**

BALTIMORE – Immigration Judge Elizabeth A. Kessler 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 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**

**Elizabeth A. Kessler** was appointed as an immigration judge in January 2006. She received a bachelor of arts degree in 1987 from Columbia University, a master of arts degree in international relations in 1992 from Yale Graduate School, and a juris doctorate in 1992 from Yale Law School. From November 2003 to January 2006, Judge Kessler served as a deputy associate attorney general at the Department of Justice (DOJ). She previously served as a deputy general counsel for the U.S. Department of Energy. From January 1997 to 1999, Judge Kessler served as General Counsel with the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, Subcommittee on Immigration, in Washington, D.C., and from January 1995 to January 1997, as Counsel on the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee. From 1993 to 1994, she was an attorney with the Civil Division, Appellate Staff, at DOJ, and a Bristow Fellow with the Office of the Solicitor General. From 1992 to 1993, Judge Kessler served as a law clerk with Judge Richard J. Cardamone, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. She is a member of both the Maryland and District of Columbia bars.

– EOIR –

*EOIR, an agency within the Department of Justice, interprets and adjudicates immigration cases according to U.S. immigration laws under delegated authority from the Attorney General. Immigration judges, within EOIR's Office of the Chief Immigration Judge, conduct administrative court proceedings. They determine whether foreign-born individuals — who are charged by the Department of Homeland Security with violating immigration law — should be removed from the United States or may be granted relief from removal to remain in the country. EOIR's Board of Immigration Appeals primarily reviews appeals of immigration judge decisions. EOIR's Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer adjudicates immigration-related employment cases. EOIR is committed to ensuring fairness in all cases.*