

Media Advisory

June 29, 2010

USCIS and Las Vegas to Welcome 100 New Citizens During Fourth of July Celebration

LAS VEGAS — U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and the city of Las Vegas will welcome 100 new U.S. citizens during the 5th Annual pre-Independence Day ceremony. The naturalization ceremony is the highlight of the city's "Celebrate America" initiative, part of the city's Diversity Program designed to showcase the diversity of the community. This judicial proceeding is unique, as the media are generally not allowed to videotape inside the courtroom in Las Vegas, but will be allowed to do so during this ceremony.

U.S. District Court Judge Lloyd D. George will preside. Las Vegas Mayor Oscar B. Goodman and USCIS Phoenix District 25 Director John Kramar will welcome the new U.S. citizens.

The 100 citizenship candidates taking the <u>Oath of Allegiance</u> originate from 34 countries. Seven are U.S. service members.

This ceremony is part of USCIS's annual observance of Independence Day. An estimated 3,800 candidates will become citizens at 55 special ceremonies held across the country and around the world, from July 1-6. This year's ceremonies will celebrate our nation's 234th birthday under the theme, "A Spirit of Independence."

WHO: Oscar B. Goodman, Las Vegas Mayor

Lloyd D. George, U.S. District Court Judge

John Kramer, USCIS Phoenix District 25 Director

WHEN: Thursday, July 1, 2010, 10:30 a.m.

WHERE: Las Vegas City Hall Council Chambers

400 Stewart Ave. Las Vegas, NV 89101

CONTACT: Marie Sebrechts, USCIS Public Affairs Officer, 949-500-1544,

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Diana Paul, Sr., Public Information Officer, City of Las Vegas, 702-229-6582

NOTE: INTERVIEWS: Candidates will arrive to begin registering at 9:30 a.m. Reporters are

encouraged to do interviews with citizen candidates and officials during this time prior

to the ceremony.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Reporters planning to attend the swearing-in ceremony should present their media credentials upon arrival. Please bring a business card to expedite check-in. The media area will be on the north side of the Council Chambers.

