

## Media Advisory

July 1, 2010

## USCIS to Welcome 20 New Citizens During Fourth of July Celebration at Saratoga National Historical Park

**STILLWATER, N.Y.** — U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Albany Field Office Director James Wyrough will administer the *Oath of Allegiance* to America's newest citizens during a special naturalization ceremony at the Saratoga National Historical Park. This year's ceremonies will celebrate our nation's 234th birthday under the theme, "A Spirit of Independence."

Honored guests and speakers include: U.S. Rep. Scott Murphy, N.Y. State Sen. Roy J. McDonald, Park Superintendent Joe Finan, and Park Ranger Joe Craig, who will present a time-honored reading of the Declaration of Independence during 13 lemonade toasts for America.

The 20 citizenship candidates originate from the following 13 countries: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, Haiti, India, Guyana, Liberia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Romania, Russia, Trinidad and Tobago and Vietnam.

This ceremony is part of USCIS's annual celebration 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.

WHO: Jim Wyrough, Albany Field Office Director, USCIS

Scott Murphy, U.S. House of Representatives Roy J. McDonald, State Senator, New York

Joe Finan, Superintendent, Saratoga National Historical Park

Corinne Scirocco, Saratoga Chapter Regent, DAR

Catherine Burch, Treasurer, Friends of Saratoga Battlefield Richard Fullam, Saratoga Battle Chapter President, SAR

**WHEN:** Sunday, July 4, 2010, 10 a.m.

**WHERE:** Saratoga National Historical Park

648 Route 32 Stillwater, NY

**CONTACT:** Stephanie Ostapowich, USCIS Public Affairs Officer, 202-272-1290 (office); 202-

491-7692 (cell)

**NOTE:** For planning purposes, media attending the ceremony are requested to RSVP to

stephanie.ostapowich@dhs.gov by close of business, Friday, July 2, 2010.

Media must arrive no later than 9:45 a.m.