

Media Advisory

June 30, 2010

USCIS to Naturalize 30 New Citizenship Candidates During Fourth of July Celebration at Hampshire Superior Court

NORTHAMPTON, Mass. — U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will present 30 candidates for citizenship to the U.S. District Court in Massachusetts. The Honorable Michael A. Ponsor, United States District Judge will administer the *Oath of Allegiance* to America's newest citizens during a special naturalization ceremony at the Hampshire Superior Court. The naturalization ceremony is being held in honor of the Fourth of July and is being conducted in partnership with the Center for New Americans in Northampton Mass.

The 30 citizenship candidates originate from the following 18 countries: Belarus, Brazil, Colombia, Croatia, Ecuador, Germany, India, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Mexico, Philippnes, Poland, Romania, Sudan, and Ukraine.

This ceremony is part of USCIS's annual celebration of Independence Day. An estimated 3800 candidates will become citizens at 55 special ceremonies held around the world from July 1-6.

WHO: The Honorable Michael A. Ponsor, United States District Judge

Denis Riordan, USCIS District Director

WHEN: Sunday, July 4, 2010, 11 a.m.

WHERE: Hampshire Superior Court

15 Gothic Sreet Northampton, MA

CONTACT: Ms. Paula Grenier, Public Affairs Officer, USCIS

617-565-4953 (O); 617-543-5339 (M)

Paula.grenier@dhs.gov

NOTE: Media partners are encouraged to plan for time to set up before the ceremony