



Media Advisory

June 30, 2010

USCIS to Welcome 54 New Citizens During Fourth of July Celebration at Elkhorn Slough National Reserve

SAN JOSE, Calif. — U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) San Jose Field Office Director Carol Keller will administer the [*Oath of Allegiance*](#) to America's newest citizens during a special naturalization ceremony at Elkhorn Slough National Reserve near Watsonville. This year's ceremonies will celebrate our nation's 234th birthday under the theme, "A Spirit of Independence."

Honored guests and speakers include Congressman Sam Farr, D-Carmel, and Monterey County Superior Court Judge Lydia Villareal, who will deliver the keynote address.

The 54 citizenship candidates originate from the following 15 countries: Mexico, Philippines, United Kingdom, Iran, Nicaragua, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Canada, China, Cuba, El Salvador, India, Iraq, Malaysia, Pakistan and Taiwan.

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: Sam Farr, U.S. Congressman
Lydia Villareal, Monterey County Superior Court Judge
Carol Keller, USCIS San Jose Field Office Director

WHEN: Tuesday, July 6, 2010, 10 a.m..

WHERE: Elkhorn Slough National Reserve
1700 Elkhorn Road
Watsonville, CA 95076

CONTACT: Sharon Rummery, USCIS Public Affairs Officer, 415-987-0191

NOTE: USCIS has contacted the soon-to-be citizens, and chosen some interesting people for your crew to interview, either in advance or at the ceremony. Please contact Ms. Rummery for details.