



# News Release

Oct. 10, 2008

## **U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Dedicates Newest Office in Orlando**

*New facility also hosts first naturalization ceremony for 29 children*

**ORLANDO, Fla.**—U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) celebrated the official grand opening of its newest field office here today in a special dedication ceremony. USCIS Acting Director Jonathan “Jock” Scharfen presided at the ceremony and was joined by leaders from USCIS headquarters in Washington.

The field office in Orlando provides full-service immigration processing – from fingerprints to naturalization -- to the people of Central Florida from a location close to the airport. The new office is based on a national model for new USCIS office locations throughout the country, and includes resources necessary to accommodate more than 450 customers daily.

“This new facility underscores our commitment to providing the absolute best service to our customers,” said Acting Director Scharfen. “This is a 37,000 square-foot symbol of our ongoing transformation program for a more modern immigration service for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Our customers in Central Florida will now see further improvements in service, accessibility, and timeliness while our own employees will benefit from a more work-friendly environment.”

The dedication today was enhanced with a special naturalization ceremony where 29 children hailing from 11 different countries received their [Oath of Allegiance](#). Patriotic music was performed by the local Daughters of the Revolution and the new citizens were congratulated by a ‘patriotic’ Mickey Mouse – all in the spirit of celebrating America and its civic values.

The Orlando Field office is part of USCIS’ Southeast Region, responsible for district and field office operations including the management of more than 900 government and contract employees in the southeast region of the U.S. The region covers a geographic area from North Carolina south to Florida, west to Louisiana and also to the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.