



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
Executive Office for Immigration Review  
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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Immigration Judge Takes Oath of Office In San Francisco**

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – Wendell Hollis was sworn in today as an Immigration Judge during an investiture ceremony in the San Francisco Immigration Court, Ceremonial Courtroom, 550 Kearny Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, San Francisco, Calif. Chief Immigration Judge Michael J. Creppy, from the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) in Falls Church, VA, administered the oath of office.

Judge Hollis joins the ranks of more than 200 Immigration Judges located in 52 Immigration Courts throughout the nation. Immigration Judges are responsible for conducting formal administrative proceedings to determine whether foreign-born individuals who are charged with violations of federal immigration law should be removed from the United States or may be granted relief from removal. Immigration Judges decide each case independently and their decisions are final unless appealed or certified to the Board of Immigration Appeals. In the past year, Immigration Judges completed more than 250,000 such proceedings. They also are authorized to administer oaths of citizenship to candidates for naturalization.

Judge Hollis was appointed Immigration Judge in January 2003. He received his B.A. from California State University, Sacramento, in 1975, his J.D. from University of Pacific, McGeorge School of Law, in 1980, and his L.L.M. from the University of Virginia, U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's School, in 1990. From 1999 to January 2003, Judge Hollis served as Deputy District Counsel for the former Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) in Phoenix, Arizona. He served as an assistant district counsel for the INS in Eloy, Arizona, from 1996 to 1999. From 1994 to 1996, he worked as a Deputy Staff Judge Advocate for the U.S. Army at Ft. McPherson, Atlanta, Georgia. Judge Hollis served as senior defense counsel at the Army's Trial Defense Services in Wuersburg, Germany, from 1992 to 1994. He was the officer in charge of the Weisbaden Legal Center in Germany from 1990 to 1992. Judge Hollis is a member of the Pennsylvania Bar.

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EOIR is a component of the Department of Justice which, on behalf of the Attorney General, adjudicates cases involving aliens who are charged with immigration violations. The agency also includes the Board of Immigration Appeals to hear appeals of Immigration Judge decisions and the Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer to handle employment-related immigration matters.

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