



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

USCIS Naturalizes 25 Candidates at Public Service Recognition Week

WASHINGTON — U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Director Alejandro Mayorkas administered the Oath of Allegiance to 25 candidates who became America’s newest citizens during a special naturalization ceremony on the National Mall in celebration of Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW). New Americans have the chance to play an integral role in shaping the future of our nation. This year’s celebration, May 3-9, 2010, recognizes innovation and opportunities in public service, and is open to the public. This naturalization ceremony is the highlight of activities USCIS has planned for PSRW to educate the public about citizenship and immigration and inspire them to choose the path of public service.

“Our nation is a beacon of hope and opportunity for men and women from around the world who yearn to realize their potential and pursue their dreams,” said Mayorkas. “It is through the talents of all our citizens, from wherever they may come, that we as a nation remain at the forefront of innovation. We welcome today’s new citizens as they join and continue in this proud tradition.”

In addition to the ceremony, USCIS is providing an opportunity for Junior Achievement high school students from Coolidge Senior High School and High Road Academy to pair with USCIS staff to discuss the education and work experience they should consider for a USCIS or federal government career. Students will receive a genealogy presentation, including a demonstration on how to trace the history of the student’s family members, and will compete in a “Citizenship Bowl” (similar to the televised quiz show “It’s Academic”) based on the 100 civics questions that make up the naturalization test.

During Public Service Recognition Week, USCIS is promoting its civics and citizenship educational materials designed to help immigrants learn about the United States and prepare for the naturalization process. One highlight is a recently released informational video that walks viewers through the naturalization interview and test. The video is currently available online at www.uscis.gov/civicsmultimedia.

Additional educational materials include:

- Civics Flash Cards for the Naturalization Test

- Learn About the United States: Quick Civics Lessons for the Naturalization Test
- Vocabulary Flash Cards for the Naturalization Test
- Expanding ESL, Civics, and Citizenship Education in Your Community: A Start-Up Guide
- The Citizen's Almanac

Since 1985, the Public Service Recognition Week program has been an annual celebration of the civilian and military men and women who serve America as federal, state, county and local government employees. The Partnership for Public Service estimates attendance during this program to be in the thousands.

For more information on USCIS and its programs, please visit www.uscis.gov.

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