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PRESS RELEASE

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EOIR Announces 77 Immigration Judges and 5 Temporary Immigration Judges *Largest Class in Agency's History*

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) today announced the swearing in of 77 immigration judges and 5 temporary immigration judges – the largest class of new adjudicators in EOIR's history, growing the total immigration judge corps to nearly 700. EOIR has hired 153 permanent immigration judges this fiscal year, the most in any single year in the agency's history.

Acting Attorney General Todd Blanche and EOIR Director Daren K. Margolin delivered remarks, and Chief Immigration Judge Teresa L. Riley administered the oath of office during an investiture, which was held May 20, 2026, at the Department of Justice's Great Hall in Washington, D.C.

"The Trump administration is committed to reestablishing an immigration judge corps that is dedicated to restoring the rule to the law in our nation's immigration system," said Acting Attorney General Todd Blanche. "Today, we are onboarding the largest immigration judge class in agency history. This could only happen thanks to President Trump's decisive leadership and commitment to securing our borders. I also applaud EOIR's leadership team for helping facilitate these hiring efforts and recruiting highly qualified and talented personnel in record time."

After a competitive application process, the Acting Attorney General appointed Lucas I. Abbott, Shawn J. Abraham, Matthew N. Andrasko, Lauren M. Black, Christopher W. Bragg, Bradley R. Burke, André Carman, Brent Carr, Steven S. Chase, Kamra Sellers Craig, Jerome M. Day, Deborah D. Dictson, Richard J. Douglas, Meredith Duff, Bradly P. Duvall, Robert G. Eastman, Megan H. Eyes, Peter C. Faerber, Omar J. Famada, Terexa Fan, Thomas B. Fighter, Kenneth Flesch, Christopher R. Ford, Mary Foster, Kathryn E. Frames, Johanna Gaymer, Taylor A. Gillespie, James K. Glover, David J. Green, Jared L. Grimmer, Michael J. Gross, Benedict "Ben" S. Gullo, Damona Taef Hakiman, Shannon R. Holderfield, Richard S. Holloway, Kimberly B. Jeter, Graciela M. Jiron, Frank A. Jury II, Denise Kallas, Nadeem R. Kasam, Jean M. Kilker, Clayton M. Lawrence, Kerri N. Lechtrecke, Adrien Lee-Lo, Kieth E. Lipiec, Joseph Martinez, Robert A. McBride, Zachary McFarland, John E. Moriarty, Craig A. Newell Jr., Michael Matthew Osterberg, Robert G. Palmer, Jonathan Daniel Pelletier, Bayleigh J. Pettigrew, Anthony A. Picione, Jaime Poarch, Keira A. Poellet, Bill Radin,

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James M. Rice, Phoebe D. Riner, Jeremy A. Rovinsky, Sarah Sawwan, Thomas J. Shusted Jr., Paul Edmond Stephan, Rhonda M. Tucker, Amy Sigmon Walker, Natalie Walker, Matthew C. Wallace, Patricia Walter, Eric Wang, Wayne J. Warf, Thomas C. Weisert, Jennifer S. Wells, Nicole I. Wells, Devin A. Winklosky, Daniel J. Wright, and Maureen H. Zumwalt to their new positions as immigration judges, and Casey S. Caton, Paul J. Hornick, Kiley R. Hyatt, Jared J. Monaco, and Lisa M. Strader to their new positions as temporary immigration judges.

Reducing the immigration court backlog remains one of the highest priorities for the agency. Since January 20, 2025, EOIR has completed more than 1.08 million cases and has reduced its pending caseload in immigration courts by more than 447,000 cases, bringing the pending caseload down from approximately 4 million to under 3.53 million, the sharpest decrease in caseload in EOIR's history.

All EOIR immigration judges, including temporary immigration judges, undergo the same robust training program. Biographical information with their qualifications and court assignments for each new judge can be found on EOIR's [webpage](#).

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