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PRESS RELEASE

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EOIR Announces 39 Immigration Judges and 6 Temporary Immigration Judges

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) today announced the swearing in of 39 immigration judges and 6 temporary immigration judges who will join immigration courts in California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Texas, Utah, and Virginia.

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 today at the Department of Justice's National Advocacy Center in Columbia, South Carolina.

"The agency has been very fortunate to attract highly qualified individuals to join our workforce," said EOIR Director Margolin. "These new immigration judges have answered the call to serve the Department of Justice and the American public, and are committed to adjudicating immigration cases fairly, expeditiously, and uniformly, in accordance with the law."

After a competitive application process, the Acting Attorney General appointed Stephanie Arrache, Watson P. Berich, Denise M. Bowen, Kathleen E. Byrne, Martin R. Celis, Ann Elizabeth Cruce-Haag, Larry Downend, Patrick A. Espana, Darian R. Etienne, Jennifer R. Falcone, Marla Gillman, Donna S. Gopaul, Ellaine Loreto Goss, Ylani A. Hayes, Tanzania Jaysura, James J. Jordan, Omar Z. Karram, James W. Kitchen, Melynda Leigh LaBrosse, Vincent Malainy, Victoria E. Mendoza, Marion S. Mishkin, Kyle V. Mitchell, Adam R. Morris, Robert S. Moskow II, Julian R. Nierva, Courtenay Patterson, Robbin E. Perkins, Christian Michael Pressman, Brittany A. Rodriguez, Laurie Samuels, Andrew F. Scafidi, Norman J. Schroth, Chris Staszak, Tod M. Thedy, William Velez Quinones, Tamara S. Wallen, Barbara L. Whelan, and Kirk Williams to their new positions as immigration judges, and Chad Bayse, Joshua Bennett, Scott F. Hallauer, Toren G. Mushovic, Marvin E. Richards, and Jason Weissman to their new positions as temporary immigration judges.

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Reducing the immigration court backlog remains one of the highest priorities for the agency. Since January 20, 2025, EOIR has completed more than 1.1 million cases and has reduced its pending caseload in immigration courts by more than 485,000 cases, bringing the pending caseload down from approximately 4 million to under 3.49 million.

All EOIR immigration judges, including temporary immigration judges, undergo a robust training program. Please see each new judge's [biographical summary](#), which includes their court assignments.

— EOIR —