



U.S. Department of Justice
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NEWS RELEASE

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August 12, 2009

Chief Immigration Judge Participates in Naturalization Ceremony

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – Chief Immigration Judge Brian M. O’Leary, Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), delivered the keynote speech and administered the oath of citizenship to approximately 60 candidates during a naturalization ceremony at 2675 Prosperity Avenue, Fairfax, Va.

The ceremony was hosted by the Washington District Field Office, Eastern Region, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.

Biographical Information

Brian M. O’Leary was appointed as the Chief Immigration Judge in July 2009. He completed undergraduate work at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in 1982, and received a juris doctorate from the New England School of Law in 1985. From May 2007 to June 2009, Judge O’Leary served as an immigration judge at the Arlington Immigration Court. From May 2006 to May 2007, he served as a temporary Board member on the Board of Immigration Appeals; from March 2003 to May 2006, he was a deputy chief immigration judge in the Office of the Chief Immigration Judge. From May 1994 to March 2003, Judge O’Leary served as an assistant chief immigration judge, during which time, from May 2000 to October 2001, he served as an acting deputy chief immigration judge. Before joining EOIR, Judge O’Leary worked for five years with the former Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) Headquarters Office of the General Counsel, where he served as associate general counsel, deputy associate general counsel, and assistant general counsel. He was also a Special Assistant United States Attorney in the U.S. Attorney’s Offices for the Southern District of Florida and Eastern District of Virginia. Prior to that experience, Judge O’Leary worked as a trial attorney with the INS Miami District Office. He is a member of the Florida and Massachusetts state bars.

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The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) is an agency within the Department of Justice. Under delegated authority from the Attorney General, immigration judges and the Board of Immigration Appeals interpret and adjudicate immigration cases according to United States immigration laws. EOIR's immigration judges conduct administrative court proceedings in immigration courts located throughout the nation. They determine whether foreign-born individuals—who are charged by the Department of Homeland Security with violating immigration law—should be ordered removed from the United States or should be granted relief from removal and be permitted to remain in this country. The Board of Immigration Appeals primarily reviews appeals of decisions by immigration judges. EOIR's Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer adjudicates immigration-related employment cases. EOIR is committed to ensuring fairness in all of the cases it adjudicates.