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NEWS RELEASE

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Dallas Immigration Judge Participates in Naturalization Ceremony

DALLAS – Immigration Judge Michael P. Baird from the Executive Office for Immigration Review, Dallas Immigration Court, delivered the keynote speech and administered the oath of allegiance to approximately 53 candidates during a special Veterans Day naturalization ceremony in Texas. The Dallas District Office of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, hosted the ceremony.

Biographical Information

Michael P. Baird was appointed as an immigration judge in April 2009. He received a bachelor of business administration in 1989 from Clayton State University and a juris doctorate in 1992 from Georgia State University College of Law. From 2006 to April 2009, Judge Baird served as an assistant district attorney in the Appalachian Judicial Circuit in Georgia. From 2004 to 2006, he served as a judge in the Municipal Court of Jonesboro, Ga. From 1997 to 2004, he was Chief Judge for the Magistrate Court of Clayton County, Ga. From 1995 to 1996, Judge Baird was in private practice. From 1993 to 1995, he served as senior assistant solicitor general at the Clayton County Solicitor's Office. From 1992 to 1993, he was in private practice. From 1986 to 1990, Judge Baird was a police officer with the Lake City Police Department. From 1998 to 2008, he served as an assistant professor on the adjunct faculty in the university system of Georgia. Judge Baird is a member of the Georgia Bar.

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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.