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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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May 17, 2010

### **The Executive Office for Immigration Review Swears in Four New Immigration Judges**

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – Chief Immigration Judge Brian M. O’Leary invested Keith Allred, Alison Brown, Theresa Scala and Randa Zagzoug during a ceremony held at the Executive Office for Immigration Review’s (EOIR) headquarters on May 14, 2010.

Attorney General Eric Holder appointed Allred, Brown, Scala and Zagzoug in April 2010 to these important public service positions. They join the ranks of more than 230 immigration judges located in 58 immigration courts nationwide.

Immigration judges conduct administrative courtroom proceedings. They determine whether foreign-born individuals, whom the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) charges with immigration law violations, should be ordered removed from the United States or are eligible for relief from removal and permitted to remain in this country. Immigration judges decide cases based on U.S. immigration law and on a case-by-case basis. Their decisions are final unless appealed to the Board of Immigration Appeals. In fiscal year 2009, immigration judges completed more than 350,000 proceedings.

The new immigration judges will preside in the immigration courts in Cleveland, Ohio, New York, N.Y., and Tacoma, Wash. Biographical information follows.

#### **Keith J. Allred, Immigration Judge, Tacoma Immigration Court**

Judge Allred received a bachelor of arts degree in 1979 from Brigham Young University and a juris doctorate in 1985 from the University of Washington. From 1979 to Jan. 2010, Judge Allred served in the U.S. Navy in various capacities: in 1995 as general counsel, Naval Medical Center, San Diego, Calif.; in 1999 as circuit trial judge, Western Pacific Judicial Circuit, Yokosuka, Japan; and in 2005 as senior trial judge, Western Judicial Circuit, and military

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commission judge, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Judge Allred is a member of the Washington State Bar.

#### **Alison M. Brown, Immigration Judge, Cleveland Immigration Court**

Judge Brown received a bachelor of arts degree in 1990 from University of North Carolina at Greensboro and a juris doctorate degree in 1995 from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. From 2008 to April 2010, Judge Brown worked as a private attorney for the Peck Law Firm in Omaha, Neb. From 2001 to 2008, she was a regional attorney for Justice for Our Neighbors, also in Omaha. From 1999 to 2001, Judge Brown was an attorney for the American Bar Association, Center for Immigration Law and Representation, in Washington, D.C. From 1996 to 1999, she was an attorney for the Northern Carolina Immigrants Legal Assistance Project in Raleigh, N.C. Judge Brown is a member of the Maryland State Bar, Nebraska State Bar and North Carolina State Bar.

#### **Theresa M. Scala, Immigration Judge, Tacoma Immigration Court**

Judge Scala received a bachelor of science degree in 1986 from Ithaca College and a juris doctorate in 1992 from Nova Southeastern University Law Center. From 1994 to April 2010, Judge Scala served as assistant chief counsel, Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Miami, Fla. From 1992 to 1994, she served as attorney advisor and judicial law clerk, Executive Office for Immigration Review, also in Miami. Judge Scala is a member of the Florida State Bar.

#### **Randa Zagzoug, Immigration Judge, New York Immigration Court**

Judge Zagzoug received a bachelor of arts degree in 1986 from College of Staten Island and a juris doctorate degree in 1990 from Seton Hall University School of Law. From 1995 to April 2010, Judge Zagzoug served as an attorney for the Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement. From 1991 to 1993, she served as supervisory asylum officer and acting director for the former Immigration and Naturalization Service in Lyndhurst, N.J. Judge Zagzoug is a member of the New York State Bar and New Jersey State Bar.

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