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NEWS RELEASE

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EOIR's Acting Director Thomas Snow Welcomes America's Newest Citizens

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – The Executive Office for Immigration Review's (EOIR) Acting Director Thomas Snow delivered the keynote address and administered the oath of allegiance to approximately 75 candidates during a special naturalization ceremony held Sept. 22 at the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Washington District Office in Fairfax, Va.

“It is a privilege for me to have the opportunity to administer the oath of allegiance to our Nation's newest citizens,” said Snow. “We are a nation of immigrants and all of us are connected, in one way or another, to the immigrant experience. Today, I was a part of honoring that immigrant experience and celebrating the decision to be a U.S. citizen.”

This event was part of USCIS's annual celebration of Constitution Day and Citizenship Day. An estimated 9,000 candidates will become citizens at 63 special ceremonies held across the country and around the world from Sept. 13-24.

Biographical Information

Thomas G. Snow was appointed as acting Director of the Executive Office for Immigration Review in February 2009. He received a bachelor of arts degree in 1977 from the College of William and Mary. Mr. Snow received a master of arts degree in 1980 and a juris doctorate in 1982, both from the University of Virginia. From January to February 2009, Mr. Snow served as acting Chief Immigration Judge. From October 2005 to January 2009, he served as an immigration judge at the Arlington Immigration Court. From 1991 to 2005, Mr. Snow served as principal deputy director for the Office of International Affairs, Criminal Division, Department of Justice (DOJ). From 1995 to 2005, he also worked as an adjunct professor of law at the University of Virginia Law School where he taught international criminal law. In 1989, Mr. Snow served as an attorney advisor in the Office of the Legal Adviser, U.S. Department of State. From 1984 to 1989, he was a trial attorney in the Office of International Affairs, Criminal Division, DOJ. From 1982 to 1984, Mr. Snow served as a trial attorney in the voting section of the Civil Rights Division, DOJ. He is a member of the District of Columbia and Virginia bars.

— EOIR —

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

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whether foreign-born individuals — whom the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) charges 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.