



U.S. Department of Justice
Executive Office for Immigration Review
Office of the Director
5107 Leesburg Pike, Suite 2600
Falls Church, Virginia 22041

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Office of Legislative and Public Affairs
(703) 305-0289 Fax: (703) 605-0365
PAO.EOIR@usdoj.gov
Internet: www.justice.gov/eoir/

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The Executive Office for Immigration Review Swears in Three New Immigration Judges

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) today announced the investiture of three new immigration judges who will join the immigration judge corps in East Mesa, Calif., Lumpkin, Ga., and Dallas, Texas. Chief Immigration Judge Brian M. O’Leary presided over the investiture during a ceremony held at EOIR’s headquarters on Nov. 18, 2011.

After a thorough application process, Attorney General Eric Holder appointed Barry S. Chait, Robert W. Kimball and Robert B. C. McSeveney to their new positions.

“We are pleased to welcome Immigration Judges Chait, Kimball and McSeveney to our immigration judge corps,” said O’Leary. “EOIR is dedicated to maintaining and, when possible, bolstering the immigration judge corps. The investiture of these three immigration judges is an example of our continuing efforts.”

Biographical information follows.

Barry S. Chait, Immigration Judge, Stewart Immigration Court

Attorney General Eric Holder appointed Judge Chait in November 2011. Judge Chait received a bachelor of arts degree in 1984 from The George Washington University; a master of social work degree in 1996 from Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, School of Social Work; and his juris doctorate in 1987 from the University of Miami School of Law. From September 2007 to November 2011, he served as the St. Paul chief counsel, Office of the Principal Legal Advisor (OPLA), U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security (DHS), in Bloomington, Minn. From 2005 to 2008, Judge Chait also served as chief of training for OPLA. From 2002 to 2005, he served as acting director of the Legal Division for OPLA at the DHS Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Glynco, Ga. From 1995 to 2002, he was an assistant district counsel for the former U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). From 1993 to 1995, Judge Chait was an asylum officer for INS. From 1990 to 1993, he was an attorney for the U.S. Catholic Conference, Catholic Legal Immigration Network Inc. From 1989 to 1990, Judge Chait was a judicial law clerk for Judge Lawrence D. Smith, Superior Court of New Jersey. He has served as an adjunct professor at the Graduate School of Social Work at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. Judge Chait is a member of the New Jersey State Bar.

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Robert W. Kimball, Immigration Judge, Dallas Immigration Court

Attorney General Eric Holder appointed Judge Kimball in November 2011. Judge Kimball received a bachelor of arts degree in 1983 and a master of arts degree in 1984, both from Johns Hopkins University. He received his juris doctorate in 1988 from Georgetown University Law Center. From August 2001 to November 2011, Judge Kimball served as an administrative judge for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in Dallas. From April 1994 to August 2001, he served as deputy district counsel for the former Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) in New York. From 1988 to 1994, Judge Kimball was a trial attorney for INS in Dallas. From 1987 to 1988, he served as a law clerk, Office of the Chief Immigration Judge, EOIR, for the immigration courts in Phoenix and Falls Church, Va. During this time, he was the administrative editor of the Georgetown Immigration Law Journal. Judge Kimball is a member of the State Bar of Texas.

Robert McSeveney, Immigration Judge, East Mesa Immigration Court

Attorney General Eric Holder appointed Judge McSeveney in November 2011. Judge McSeveney received a bachelor of arts degree in 1980 and his juris doctorate in 1984, both from Seattle University. From 1991 to November 2011, he served in various public capacities, including hearing examiner from 1991 to 2011; King County superior court portability judge from 2002 to 2011; and municipal court judge for the City of Kent from 1994 to 2011. Also during this time, from 1988 to 1994, Judge McSeveney was in private practice in Bellevue, Wash., during which time he served as a public defender from 1990 to 1992. From 1987 to 1988, he served as an assistant city attorney in Bellevue. From 1985 to 1987, Judge McSeveney was deputy prosecuting attorney in Bellevue. From 1973 to 1981, he served as a police officer in Bellevue. Judge McSeveney is a member of the Washington State Bar.

— 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 (BIA) 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 — whom the Department of Homeland Security 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 BIA 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.