

Advisory

September 14, 2004

USCIS TO WELCOME MORE THAN 125 NEW CITIZENS

Ceremonies Highlight the American Dream in Action

LAS VEGAS, NV – Two groups totaling around 125 Las Vegas-area residents from 39 countries will take the Oath of Allegiance and become United States citizens during two special ceremonies this Friday at the US District Court. The ceremonies will commemorate Citizenship Day. The Honorable Lloyd D. George will preside. Every year, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Las Vegas District Office processes approximately 4,500 successful citizenship applications for people throughout southern Nevada.

On March 1, 2003, USCIS became one of three legacy Immigration and Naturalization Service components to join the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. USCIS is charged with fundamentally transforming and improving the delivery of immigration and citizenship services, while enhancing our nation's security. During the past year, USCIS has helped more than 640,000 men, women and children fulfill their dreams and become United States citizens. Each year, USCIS welcomes more than 450,000 citizens during naturalization ceremonies across the United States. That number includes more than 8,000 service members who have naturalized thorough an expedited process stemming from their involvement in the war on terrorism.

EVENT: Naturalization Ceremonies

DATE: September 17, 2004, at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

LOCATION: The Lloyd D. George US District Courthouse

Las Vegas, NV

Media members may enter the courthouse during the ceremony, but *no news cameras* are allowed. Interviews with new citizens may be done outside the building before or after the ceremony