



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

Advisory

September 14, 2004

USCIS TO WELCOME MORE THAN 150 NEW CITIZENS *Ceremony Highlights the American Dream in Action*

VANCOUVER, WA – A group of nearly 150 Vancouver-area residents from 18 countries will take the Oath of Allegiance and become United States citizens during a special ceremony this Friday at the Slavic Evangelical Church. The ceremony will commemorate Citizenship Day. Robert Okin, District Director of Seattle U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), will conduct the ceremony.

Each year, Seattle's USCIS District processes approximately 11,272 successful citizenship applications for people throughout Washington State and 10 counties in northern Idaho.

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.

EVENT: Naturalization Ceremony

DATE: September 17, 2004, at 1:00 p.m.

LOCATION: The Slavic Evangelical Church
3612 F Street
Vancouver, WA 98663

PRINCIPAL: USCIS Seattle District Director Robert Okin