



Media Advisory

June 29, 2010

USCIS to Welcome 55 New Citizens During Fourth of July Celebration Aboard the USS Little Rock

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Fifty-five candidates will take the [*Oath of Allegiance*](#) during a special naturalization ceremony aboard the USS Little Rock, the former flagship of the U.S. Sixth Fleet. This year's ceremonies will celebrate our nation's 234th birthday under the theme, "A Spirit of Independence."

The Honorable Richard J. Arcara, U.S. District Court, Western District of New York, will preside over the ceremony. Marissa Bailey from WGRZ-TV Channel 2 News will deliver remarks.

The 55 citizenship candidates originate from 31 countries including: China, Philippines, Poland, Nigeria, Russia, Vietnam and Yemen.

This ceremony is part of USCIS's annual celebration of Independence Day. An estimated 3,800 candidates will become citizens at 55 special ceremonies held across the country and around the world from July 1-6.

WHO: Honorable Richard J. Arcara , U.S. District Court, Western District of New York
M. Frances Holmes, Buffalo District Director, USCIS
Marissa Bailey, WGRZ-TV Channel 2 News

WHEN: Thursday, July 1, 2010, 9:30 a.m.

WHERE: Aboard the USS Little Rock (Former Flagship of the U.S. Sixth Fleet)
Buffalo & Erie County Naval and Military Park
1 Naval Park Cove
Buffalo, NY 14202

CONTACT: Stephanie Ostapowich,
Public Affairs Officer, USCIS
202-272-1290 office; 202-491-7692 cell

NOTE: For planning purposes, media attending the ceremony are requested to RSVP to stephanie.ostapowich@dhs.gov by close of business, Wednesday, June 30, 2010. Media must arrive no later than 9:15 a.m.