



# Media Advisory

June 29, 2010

## USCIS to Welcome 142 New Citizens During Fourth of July Celebration at Ellis Island

**NEW YORK** — U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) District Director Andrea Quarantillo will administer the *Oath of Allegiance* to America's newest citizens during a special naturalization ceremony at Ellis Island. This year's ceremonies will celebrate our nation's 234th birthday under the theme, "A Spirit of Independence."

Honored guests and speakers include: U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Shaun Donovan, Assistant to the U.S. President and Domestic Policy Council Director Melody Barnes, and Statue of Liberty National Monument Superintendent David Luchsinger.

The 138 citizenship candidates originate from the following 57 countries: Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cote D'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, India, Ireland, Israel, Jamaica, Kosovo, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Russia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, South Africa, South Korea, St. Lucia, Suriname, Gambia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United Kingdom, Venezuela, and Vietnam.

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:** Andrea J. Quarantillo, New York District Director, USCIS  
Shaun Donovan, Secretary of the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Department  
Melody Barnes, Assistant to the President and Director of the Domestic Policy Council  
Mr. David Luchsinger, Superintendent of the Statue of Liberty National Monument

**WHEN:** Friday, July 2, 2010, 10:30 a.m.

**WHERE:** Ellis Island  
Immigration Museum, Great Hall  
New York, NY  
*Please meet us at the Castle Clinton located at State Street and Battery Place in Battery Park. The boat to Ellis Island will depart promptly at 8:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. Please bring photo identification.*

**CONTACT:** Luz Figuereo Irazabal  
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**NOTE:** Media must RSVP by Thursday, July 1 at 12:00 p.m. at [Luz.Irazabal@dhs.gov](mailto:Luz.Irazabal@dhs.gov).



**U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services**

*Office of Communications*

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