



Media Advisory

June 30, 2010

USCIS to Welcome 40 New Citizens During Fourth of July Celebration at the William Paca House and Garden

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Associate Director for Management Rendell Jones will administer the [*Oath of Allegiance*](#) to America's newest citizens during a special naturalization ceremony at the William Paca House and Garden on July 4. The naturalization ceremony is part of a special day-long celebration at the home of one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. U.S. Deputy Secretary of Labor Seth Harris will deliver the keynote address and John Belcher, Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees for the Historic Annapolis Foundation, will share his unique experiences as a naturalized U.S. citizen.

The 40 citizenship candidates originate from the following 24 countries: Cameroon, Canada, China, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Jamaica, Kenya, Korea, Liberia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Sierra Leone, South Korea, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey and Uganda.

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. This year's ceremonies will celebrate our nation's 234th birthday under the theme, "A Spirit of Independence."

WHO: Seth Harris, Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Labor
Rendell Jones, Associate Director for Management, USCIS, Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
John Belcher, Vice Chair, Board of Trustees, Historic Annapolis Foundation

WHEN: Sunday, July 4, 2010, 9:30 a.m. (Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.)

WHERE: William Paca House and Garden
186 Prince George Street
Annapolis, MD

CONTACT: Chris Bentley, USCIS, 202-272-1224 or 202-207-6791 (cell)

NOTE: Please RSVP by 6 p.m. on Saturday, July 3 to christopher.bentley@dhs.gov.

Please arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the ceremony.