

## Court Information Release



### United States District Court

Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division  
219 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60604

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### District Court Hosts First Naturalization Ceremony Since Mid-March

Chicago, Ill. - On Wednesday, August 5, 2020, the U.S. District Court will resume hosting naturalization ceremonies at Dirksen U.S. Courthouse in Chicago with additional health and safety precautions in place.

“I am so delighted that our Court is able to safely resume one of its most inspiring and important functions, administering the Oath of Allegiance to new U.S. citizens. In these challenging times, it brings the Court hope and optimism to see members of our community reach their goal of U.S. citizenship after what often can be an arduous journey,” said Chief Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer.

Naturalization ceremonies will now take place outdoors in the Quincy Courtyard adjacent to the Dirksen U.S. Courthouse and will be limited to 30 candidates per ceremony. Those attending will be required to wear a face mask or covering and will be spaced six feet apart. Additional safety protocols are already in place at the Dirksen Courthouse, including sanitizing stations, social distance reminders, and reconfigured exits and entrances.

Beginning in mid-March 2020, the Court suspended large public events, including naturalization ceremonies, in compliance with federal, state, and local health guidelines on the COVID-19/coronavirus pandemic. Prior to the pandemic, the Court conducted naturalization ceremonies inside a courtroom with approximately 100 candidates in each ceremony.

The Court will host two ceremonies, at 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m., tomorrow. Additional ceremonies have been scheduled throughout August.

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