



United States District Court
Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division
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U.S. District Court Swears in 311 Citizenship Candidates in Naturalization Ceremony at Rockford's Coronado Theater

Rockford, Ill. – On June 10, 2025, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois hosted a naturalization ceremony at the Coronado Theater in which 311 new citizens from 69 countries were sworn in as U.S. citizens.

“Congratulations and welcome to our newest citizens. Your hard work and sacrifice are an inspiration to all American citizens. My wish for you today is that you become active citizens in our nation – vote, volunteer, and help others, especially those in need or those without a voice,” said Chief Judge Virginia M. Kendall.

U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Thomas M. Lynch administered the Oath of Allegiance and welcomed the new citizens.

Every year thousands of immigrants visit the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois to be sworn in as U.S. citizens at naturalization ceremonies. The district's judges preside over these ceremonies, which take place in both of the district's courthouses and throughout the district. Family and friends gather to watch as new citizens take the Oath of Allegiance to the United States, a sworn declaration that every citizenship applicant must recite during a formal ceremony in order to become a naturalized American citizen. When taking the Oath, the new citizen promises to support and defend the U.S. Constitution and the laws of the U.S.

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