

Court Information Release



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

Release Date:
October 15, 2024

Contact: Julie Hodek, Public Information Officer
United States District Court for
the Northern District of Illinois
219 S. Dearborn St., #2514A
Chicago, IL 60604
312-435-5693

127 Citizenship Candidates Sworn in at Chicago Botanic Garden

Glencoe, Ill. – On Friday, October 11, 2024, U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Amy J. St. Eve, Seventh Circuit, administered the Oath of Allegiance to 127 candidates from 42 countries at the Chicago Botanic Garden.

“What a stunning and fitting setting to welcome our newest citizens. May the blooming and colorful flowers inspire growth and new opportunities in your next season as U.S. Citizens. May the tall, sturdy trees, rooted in solid earth, remind you to stay connected to your homeland and its sacred traditions,” said Chief Virginia M. Kendall.

Henry Munez, Board Director of the Chicago Botanic Garden, and Regis Charlot, Village President of Lake Bluff, welcomed the new citizens. Judge St. Eve and Carissa Sheffler, Deputy District Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, offered congratulations to the new citizens and their families.

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.

###

