

Court Information Release



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION
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DISTRICT JUDGE EDMOND E-MIN CHANG ADMINISTERS OATH OF OFFICE TO NEW CITIZENS ON THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS PARENTS TAKING THE SAME OATH

Chicago - Today, United States District Judge Edmond E-Min Chang administered the Oath of Allegiance to 100 new citizens. August 27, 2015 marks the 40th Anniversary of Judge Chang's parents taking the very same oath that he administered to new citizens. Judge Chang's parents emigrated from Taiwan to the United States and were sworn in as United States citizens on August 27, 1975 in the federal courthouse in New York, New York.

During the ceremony, Judge Chang stated, "I am amazed by my parents'—and your—astounding courage, hard work, and perseverance in enduring the long journey to citizenship. Like my parents, you have traveled a long road to arrive here, whether the road is measured in miles or measured in effort (or both)." Judge Chang continued, "It is a journey well worth making, because it is here that you can pursue the American Dream. The American Dream is a vision of our Nation that declares that each American, no matter where they start in life, may—through hard work and talent—achieve whatever their ability allows. This Dream is uniquely American: long has our Nation called out to the world that this is the land of opportunity, this is the land where anything is possible."

Naturalization is the process by which U.S. citizenship is granted to a foreign citizen or national after he or she fulfills the requirements established by Congress in the Immigration and

Nationality Act (INA). The United States has a long history of welcoming immigrants from all parts of the world. During the last decade, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) welcomed more than 6.6 million naturalized citizens into our nation. Each year, USCIS welcomes approximately 680,000 citizens during naturalization ceremonies across the United States and around the world.

Judge Chang is the first Asian-Pacific American Article III federal judge in Illinois, and the second APA Article III judge outside of the East and West Coasts. Judge Chang received a B.S. from the University of Michigan of Ann-Arbor and a J.D. from Northwestern University. Judge Chang was unanimously confirmed by the United States Senate in December 2010. At the time of his confirmation, Judge Chang was the youngest federal judge in the nation.

Judge Chang's photograph and full remarks given during the ceremony are available for use by the media. Please email thomas_bruton@ilnd.uscourts.gov for copies.

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