

United States District Court

District of New Mexico

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FEDERAL COURT NATURALIZES CITIZENS AS PART OF NATIONAL CELEBRATION OF CONSTITUTION DAY AND CITIZENSHIP DAY

*Media is Welcome to Cover First-Ever National Day
Of Naturalization Ceremonies*

America's newest citizens will take the Oath of Allegiance at naturalization ceremonies from New York to Alaska, including at Montezuma/Las Vegas, New Mexico, as part of this year's celebration of Constitution Day and Citizenship Day on September 17, 2014.

The U.S. Court for the District of New Mexico is among [two dozen federal courts](#) around the country that have scheduled naturalization ceremonies marking the date in 1787 that delegates to the Constitutional Convention signed the nation's founding document.

The local ceremony will be at Montezuma Castle/United World College, USA, on September 17th, with Chief Judge M. Christina Armijo, of the District of New Mexico presiding. The event begins at 1:00 p.m. At some ceremonies, students will present the Colors; sing the National Anthem; lead the Pledge of Allegiance; or deliver hand-written welcome letters to the new citizens.

“Naturalization ceremonies are a living testament to both Citizenship Day and Constitution Day,” said Chief Judge Robert A. Katzmann of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, who is hosting a ceremony in New York. “They demonstrate the active efforts of immigrants to become educated about our government and to pledge allegiance to our country's laws. These ceremonies also serve as an important reminder to us all of our collective responsibility, as citizens, to promote civic education so that our Constitution and government remain vital for generations to come.”

This is the first time the Federal Judiciary has coordinated a day of naturalization ceremonies across the nation. To support Constitution Day and Citizenship Day, as well as court-related civics education, the federal courts provide multi-media [educational resources](#) that are ready for immediate use in courtrooms and classrooms.

The federal courts' national initiative is part of broader efforts by the [Civics Renewal Network](#), (CRN) convened by the Leonore Annenberg Institute for Civics at the Annenberg Public Policy Center. CRN is an alliance of [26 organizations](#) dedicated to raising the visibility of civics education and providing free, high-quality resources for teachers. Partners include the Library of Congress, the National Archives and Records Administration, the National Constitution Center, the Newseum, the National Endowment for the Humanities' EDSITEment, and the U.S. Courts. Follow on Twitter: @CivicsRenewal.

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