

Court Information Release



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

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the Northern District of Illinois
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66 Citizenship Candidates Sworn in at Chicago Botanic Garden

Glencoe, Ill. - Today Chief Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer administered the Oath of Allegiance to 66 candidates from 26 countries at the Chicago Botanic Garden.

“Congratulations to our new citizens. You have worked hard to achieve this dream. We welcome you and call upon you to help us repair the deep divisions in our country. Our hope is that you actively participate in our community and nation by voting, volunteering, and serving upon juries when called upon,” said Chief Judge Pallmeyer.

Chief Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer administered the Oath of Allegiance and welcomed the new citizens. Congressman Sean Casten, 6th Congressional District; Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky, 9th Congressional District; and Congressman Brad Schneider, 10th Congressional District; offered congratulatory remarks. Fred Spicer, Executive Vice President and Director of the Chicago Botanic Garden, and Carissa Sheffler, Deputy District Director of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services of the Chicago Field Office, also welcomed the new citizens.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the Court has conducted naturalization ceremonies outdoors, in large public spaces that allow for distancing, and has had to limit the number of citizens at each courthouse ceremony to allow for social distancing and to comply with health guidelines.

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Above: Chief Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer administers the Oath of Allegiance.



Above: Congressman Sean Casten speaks at the podium. Left to right: Chief Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer; Thomas G. Bruton, Clerk of Court; Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky; Congressman Brad Schneider; Fred Spicer, Executive Vice President and Director of the Chicago Botanic Garden; and Carissa Sheffler, Deputy District Director of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services of the Chicago Field Office.