

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF WYOMING

*In the Matter of the Naturalization
and Granting of United States
Citizenship to:*

STANISLAV SERGEYEVICH LIPATOV,
MAGLIS MALAVE,
PETER CHISHOLM CORNFOOT,
GABRIELA CORONA,
MANUEL PERALTA,
ANNEKE ANNA ERLANDSON,
DENISSE GAMBOA,
YOLANDA AGUALADA HOUGHAM,
GUADALUPE BUSTAMANTE BUSTAMANTE,
PANIDA CAMPBELL,
SINDY ZARATE,
MIREYA CANTU,
LILIBETH VILLANUEVA LIEBERMAN,

MAY 13, 2013
3:38 P.M. - 4:40 P.M.

EWING T. KERR
FEDERAL COURTHOUSE

Petitioners.

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING ON PETITIONS FOR
UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP AND NATURALIZATION CEREMONY
BEFORE THE HONORABLE SCOTT W. SKAVDAHL
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

APPEARANCES:

For the Government:

David Kubichek
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
P.O. Box 22211
Casper, Wyoming 82602

Reported By:

Jamie L. Hendrich, CSR-RPR-CRR
Official U.S. Court Reporter
U.S. District Courthouse
111 South Wolcott, Room 217
Casper, Wyoming 82601
(307) 265-5280

1 **(The proceedings commence at 3:38 p.m.)**

2 **THE CLERK:** All rise.

3 (Court enters.)

4 **THE CLERK:** Hear ye, hear ye, hear ye. The
5 United States District Court for the District of Wyoming is now
6 in session, the Honorable Scott W. Skavdahl presiding. God
7 save the United States and this Honorable Court.

8 **THE COURT:** Thank you. Please be seated.

9 Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen, and welcome to
10 the Ewing T. Kerr Federal Courthouse for this naturalization
11 ceremony. The Court will suspend the local rules on cameras
12 and recording devices; and I would ask anyone with a cell
13 phone, if you could please turn that to "silent" right now.

14 I would note it's been a tradition in these ceremonies
15 granting citizenship to new citizens to recognize those
16 citizens and families of those citizens who have paid the
17 ultimate price in defending what so many in this world seek:
18 Freedom and benefits of being a United States citizen. As of
19 today's date, 6,699 American men and women have been killed in
20 action while involved in military operations in Afghanistan and
21 Iraq. In addition, 50,702 United States citizens have been
22 wounded in action in these military operations.

23 Let us take a moment of silence and recognize those
24 American heroes and their families whose sacrifice cannot be
25 measured and whose loss will never be recovered.

1 (Silent tribute.)

2 **THE COURT:** The United States District Court for the
3 District of Wyoming is in special session for the
4 naturalization of foreign nationals to be United States
5 citizens. It is with great honor, pride and privilege that I
6 am able to conduct this ceremony today, inducting, I believe,
7 13 new United States citizens.

8 The Federal District Court to Wyoming, including
9 Chief Judge Freudenthal, Judge Johnson and Judge Brimmer,
10 extend their congratulations to you and your families. I'd ask
11 the deputy clerk of court to make a roll call of prospective
12 applicants for U.S. citizenship; and if you could please stand
13 when your name is called.

14 **THE CLERK:** Stanislav Sergeevich Lipatov. Maglis
15 Malave. Peter Chisholm Cornfoot. Gabriela Corona. Manuel
16 Peralta. Anneke Anna Erlandson. Denisse Gamboa. Yolanda
17 Hougham. Guadalupe Bustamante. Panida Campbell. Sindy
18 Zarate. Mireya Cantu. And Lilibeth Bale Lieberman.

19 **THE COURT:** Thank you. Please be seated.

20 At this time, I would recognize Mr. Kubichek on behalf
21 of the United States, representing the Attorney General of the
22 United States on a petition.

23 **MR. KUBICHEK:** May it please the Court.

24 **THE COURT:** Counsel.

25 **MR. KUBICHEK:** Your Honor, on behalf of the

1 Attorney General of the United States, the following
2 petitioners are before the Court for hearing on their petitions
3 for naturalization: Stanislav Sergeyeovich Lipatov of Russia;
4 Maglis Malave of Venezuela; Peter Chisholm Cornfoot of the
5 United Kingdom; Gabriela Corona of Mexico; Manuel Peralta of
6 the Dominican Republic; Anneke Anna Erlandson of the
7 Netherlands; Denisse Gamboa of Mexico; Yolanda Agualada Hougham
8 of the Philippines; Guadalupe Bustamante Bustamante of Mexico;
9 Panida Campbell of Thailand; Sindy Zarate of Guatemala; Mireya
10 Cantu of Mexico; and Lilibeth Villanueva Lieberman of the
11 Philippines.

12 Your Honor, each of these applicants has been
13 interviewed and examined under oath by a designated examiner of
14 the Citizenship and Immigration Service who has completed their
15 character and background investigations. Citizenship and
16 Immigration Service has indicated in their correspondence that
17 these petitioners have each met all the requirements for
18 naturalization and are well-qualified as desirable candidates
19 for United States citizenship. Therefore, Your Honor, on the
20 recommendation of the immigration officer, it is my privilege
21 to move that each of them be admitted to United States
22 citizenship upon taking the oath.

23 **THE COURT:** Thank you, Mr. Kubichek. On petition --

24 **MR. KUBICHEK:** Thank you, Your Honor.

25 **THE COURT:** On petition of the United States, the

1 Court finds that each of the applicants identified has
2 satisfied the legal requirements to become citizens of the
3 United States and therefore will grant the petition and enter
4 the order allowing these petitioners to become citizens of the
5 United States.

6 At this time, I would ask Colonel Schmotzer -- could
7 you identify the members of the Natrona County High School
8 Color Guard today?

9 **COLONEL SCHMOTZER:** Yes, sir.

10 Cadet Shoupe is the lead guard; Cadet Howe with the
11 national colors; Cadet Tomphson with the state colors; and
12 Cadet Beck is a guard also.

13 **THE COURT:** Colonel, would you please order the
14 posting of the Color Guard at this time.

15 And, ladies and gentlemen, would you please stand.

16 (Presentation of colors by NCHS JROTC Color Guard.)

17 **THE COURT:** Fellow citizens, it is our obligation at
18 this time to show our allegiance to this country by making our
19 pledge of allegiance and then remain standing for the playing
20 of our national anthem.

21 (Pledge of Allegiance of the United States recited;
22 *Star-Spangled Banner* played.)

23 **THE COURT:** Thank you, Colonel Schmotzer. If you
24 could please retire the colors, and thank you for your and the
25 cadets' participation today.

1 (Colors retired.)

2 THE COURT: Thank you. Please be seated except for
3 the new citizens.

4 If you would please raise your hand and repeat after
5 me. I hereby declare --

6 THE PETITIONERS: I hereby declare --

7 THE COURT: -- on oath --

8 THE PETITIONERS: -- on oath --

9 THE COURT: -- that I absolutely and entirely --

10 THE PETITIONERS: -- that I absolutely and entirely --

11 THE COURT: -- renounce and abjure --

12 THE PETITIONERS: -- renounce and abjure --

13 THE COURT: -- all allegiance and fidelity --

14 THE PETITIONERS: -- all allegiance and fidelity --

15 THE COURT: -- to any foreign prince --

16 THE PETITIONERS: -- to any foreign prince --

17 THE COURT: -- potentate --

18 THE PETITIONERS: -- potentate --

19 THE COURT: -- state or sovereignty --

20 THE PETITIONERS: -- state or sovereignty --

21 THE COURT: -- of whom or which I have --

22 THE PETITIONERS: -- of whom or which I have --

23 THE COURT: -- heretofore been a subject or citizen;

24 THE PETITIONERS: -- heretofore been a subject or

25 citizen;

1 **THE COURT:** That I will support and defend --

2 **THE PETITIONERS:** That I will support and defend --

3 **THE COURT:** -- the Constitution and laws of the
4 United States of America --

5 **THE PETITIONERS:** -- the Constitution and laws of the
6 United States of America --

7 **THE COURT:** -- against all enemies --

8 **THE PETITIONERS:** -- against all enemies --

9 **THE COURT:** -- foreign or domestic;

10 **THE PETITIONERS:** -- foreign or domestic;

11 **THE COURT:** That I will bear true faith --

12 **THE PETITIONERS:** That I will bear true faith --

13 **THE COURT:** -- and allegiance to the same;

14 **THE PETITIONERS:** -- and allegiance to the same;

15 **THE COURT:** That I will bear arms on behalf --

16 **THE PETITIONERS:** That I will bear arms on behalf --

17 **THE COURT:** -- of the United States --

18 **THE PETITIONERS:** -- of the United States --

19 **THE COURT:** -- when required by law;

20 **THE PETITIONERS:** -- when required by law;

21 **THE COURT:** That I will perform non-combat service --

22 **THE PETITIONERS:** That I will perform non-combat
23 service --

24 **THE COURT:** -- in the Armed Forces of the
25 United States --

1 **THE PETITIONERS:** -- in the Armed Forces of the
2 United States --

3 **THE COURT:** -- when required by the law.

4 **THE PETITIONERS:** -- when required by the law.

5 **THE COURT:** I take this obligation freely --

6 **THE PETITIONERS:** I take this obligation freely --

7 **THE COURT:** -- without any mental reservation --

8 **THE PETITIONERS:** -- without any mental reservation --

9 **THE COURT:** -- or for purpose of evasion.

10 **THE PETITIONERS:** -- or for purpose of evasion.

11 **THE COURT:** So help me God.

12 **THE PETITIONERS:** So help me God.

13 **THE COURT:** Congratulations.

14 At this time we'll hand out the certificates to the
15 new citizens; and if the family members wish to come forward
16 and take pictures as we do so, you're more than welcome to
17 leave your seat and get a better angle.

18 (Certificates presented and shaking of hands of the new
19 citizens by the Court and the clerk.)

20 **THE COURT:** I'm glad there are pictures so I don't
21 have to say the names.

22 (Laughter)

23 **THE COURT:** At this time we sometimes have a speaker
24 come in, and I thought that it would be a little bit of a
25 change -- or a choir; and because it's the end of the school

1 year, it appears all the choirs are on bus trips somewhere. So
2 what I thought we would do, to the extent you would like, the
3 new citizens -- if you could tell us just a little bit about
4 yourself, your name, where you're from originally and what
5 brought you here and any family members that you might have
6 with us today.

7 **STANISLAV SERGEYEVICH LIPATOV:** Well, my name is
8 Stanislav Lipatov. I came to the United States pretty much
9 five years ago, originally from Russia. I met a beautiful
10 woman, my wife, Caitlin Heryford. And I met a best friend that
11 we knew, Collin Kenzy. I really appreciate all the support,
12 and I really appreciate that you have been with me through all
13 this hard time.

14 **THE COURT:** Congratulations and welcome.

15 **STANISLAV SERGEYEVICH LIPATOV:** Thank you, sir.

16 **MAGLIS MALAVE:** Good afternoon. My name is Maglis. I
17 am originally from Venezuela, and we came here looking for a
18 better quality of life, and I'm here with my family: My
19 husband Juan and my two boys, Juan Diego and Juan David. We
20 love them so much. Thank you.

21 **THE COURT:** Thank you.

22 **PETER CHISHOLM CORNFOOT:** Hi. My name is Peter
23 Cornfoot, and I come from Scotland. I've been coming to the
24 United States since I was about 18, on and off, fell in love
25 with the place. So that's why I'm still here.

1 **THE COURT:** Welcome.

2 **GABRIELA CORONA:** I am Gabriela Corona. I'm here with
3 my husband Cesar Corona and my daughter Leslie and my son Rey
4 Corona. We've been here for a long time. I'm originally from
5 Mexico, and we've been here -- we met here in 1996, I think.
6 So since then my husband and I have been together. Thank you
7 for all your support.

8 **THE COURT:** Welcome. Thank you for coming.

9 **MANUEL PERALTA:** My name is Manuel and I was born in
10 the Dominican Republic. I came here back in 2008, and I met my
11 wife Holly in my country. We live in Jackson. She's a school
12 teacher and I work for the hospital in Jackson, too. I'm glad
13 to be here, and I appreciate all the support. Thank you.

14 **THE COURT:** Glad to have you.

15 **ANNEKE ANNA ERLANDSON:** I'm Anneke Erlandson. I'm
16 from the Netherlands. And if you see my husband, you know why
17 I'm still here. I have two beautiful daughters, Femke and
18 Mieke, and I came here in 1995. I still like it a lot. So
19 thank you for accepting me as a citizen.

20 **THE COURT:** Thank you.

21 **DENISSE GAMBOA:** My name is Denisse Gamboa. I'm here
22 with my sister Daniela and my daughter Jimena, and I came here
23 when I was three years old with my parents, looking for a
24 better quality of life, and I'm originally from Mexico. Thank
25 you.

1 **THE COURT:** Thank you. Welcome.

2 **LILIBETH VILLANEUVA LIEBERMAN:** My name is Lilibeth
3 Lieberman. I'm with my husband, my sister and my niece.
4 I'm -- I've been here since 2009, and I'm originally from the
5 Philippines. Thank you.

6 **THE COURT:** All right.

7 **MIREYA CANTU:** Hi. My name is Mireya Cantu, and I was
8 brought here when I was really young and same thing: For a
9 better quality of life. And I met my husband, got married. I
10 have three beautiful daughters and that's it.

11 **THE COURT:** Welcome and congratulations.

12 **SINDY ZARATE:** Hi. My name is Sindy Zarate. I'm here
13 with my dad and my sister, and I'm actually the last of my dad
14 and my brother to become a citizen. I'm from Guatemala. I've
15 been here about seven years, and I've very happy here, and
16 thank you very much.

17 **THE COURT:** Thank you.

18 **PANIDA CAMPBELL:** I'm Panida Campbell. I'm originally
19 from Thailand, and I met some cowboy from Gillette, and then we
20 married and he then bring me here, and I think I love here, and
21 I accept to become a U.S. citizen, and thank you for all the
22 support.

23 **THE COURT:** Congratulations and thank you.

24 **GUADALUPE BUSTAMANTE BUSTAMANTE:** My name is Guadalupe
25 Bustamante *por igual de* -- to Mexico. *Gracias.*

1 **THE COURT:** Good to have you. That's all right.

2 **YOLANDA AGUALADA HOUGHAM:** Hi. I'm Yolanda Hougham,
3 originally from the Philippines, and brought me here with -- I
4 met my husband, Steven Hougham; and I'm happy to be here
5 because people are great and -- here. I don't know. I'm so
6 happy.

7 **THE COURT:** Well, we're happy to have you.

8 **YOLANDA AGUALADA HOUGHAM:** Thank you.

9 **THE COURT:** Thank you for coming.

10 At this time -- and I have to observe many of you come
11 from a climate -- with the exception of Scotland and Russia,
12 many of you come from a climate that's much harsher -- or less
13 harsh than the Wyoming winters, and I'm glad to know that you
14 persevered through the recent winter that we have had, and now
15 we're enjoying summer today. So it might only last for a
16 couple days, but at least it's a little more pleasant.

17 At this time, I would first note the presentation by
18 various patriotic organizations, and I would recognize Mr. Stan
19 Lowe on behalf of the American Legion, Past Department
20 Commander.

21 **MR. LOWE:** May it please the Court.

22 **THE COURT:** Counsel.

23 **MR. LOWE:** With the Court's permission, I'd like to
24 sit if I might --

25 **THE COURT:** You are certainly --

1 **MR. LOWE:** -- for my presentation.

2 **THE COURT:** You may.

3 **MR. LOWE:** Thank you very much.

4 Ladies and gentlemen, speaking on behalf of the
5 veterans here today, we welcome you and congratulate you on
6 joining our family of Americans. We know that this is a great
7 day for you. Well, it is a great day for us. As I noted in
8 the last ceremony we had before this, our country is a very
9 young country as is true, of course, of all those of you from
10 the western hemisphere.

11 Ours is -- well, to give you an idea, I turned 90 in
12 April. The 90 years I've lived constitute 25 percent. That's
13 one-fourth of the total years of the history of the
14 United States of America. I don't know who looks older, the
15 United States of America or me; but nonetheless I'm an example
16 of how young this country is. It's built up enormously in just
17 these less than 300 years. It's incredible what has been built
18 here and what has been achieved here, but the building isn't
19 over, and we welcome you for participating in the future years
20 to help build it.

21 Now, the talk that I want to give today is to acquaint
22 you with our interesting military system that we have in this
23 country. We have the Armed Forces of the United States of
24 America that are funded by and governed by the United States
25 Government, but each of our sovereign states has its own

1 military forces that in their constitutions are called the
2 "state militia." That is a name that has become almost in
3 total disuse. Because of Marquis de Lafayette who came over
4 here a French nobleman and made a general by the Continental
5 Congress during the Revolutionary War, fought with Washington
6 to be a contributor to gaining the independence of the
7 United States from Great Britain -- France and Great Britain
8 weren't getting along together too well in those days as some
9 of you will recall -- but this is a very interesting fellow,
10 and he fell in love with his country, and he was proud of the
11 part he had actually on the battlefields, fighting for our
12 independence. In fact, he was wounded. So he not only gave
13 his years of service so that you and I can live in this country
14 as an independent country, but he also gave his blood. So he
15 named our state militias the "National Guard."

16 Now, we have with us here today two members of the
17 Wyoming National Guard. I'm going to ask them to stand, and
18 I'm going to introduce them. First is Sergeant Samantha D.
19 Eutsler who's been with the National Guard for six years, and
20 she -- her home is here in Casper. Her official job is
21 "military funeral honors area coordinator." With her is
22 Private First Class Jonathan I. Vallot of Buffalo, and he is a
23 military funeral honors area coordinator assistant.

24 Now, these young people -- these young people
25 exemplify for you our finest in our state, our National Guard.

1 They take an oath much like you just took now to not only
2 support and defend the Constitution and laws of the
3 United States, but they also took an oath to support and defend
4 the Constitution of the State of Wyoming. You see, the
5 Governor of Wyoming is the commander in chief of what you see
6 here of our military, and that's the way our military is
7 structured. Now, they constitute a very important part of our
8 state and of our military system because not only are they
9 subject to being called up by the federal government, what we
10 call "federalized" and become actively involved in a conflict,
11 by events that we're fighting in any part of the world -- in
12 fact, almost all of these "war on terror" battles that we've
13 been going through have been fought with National Guard
14 personnel participating in that, and that's where, as I say,
15 they are "federalized" in order to do this.

16 Now, you can be seated now if you might, please, and
17 I'll call you in just a moment later.

18 And so that gives you an idea of the difference. Now,
19 the people going in the regular military service -- they not
20 only support -- take an oath to support the President, but they
21 also take the oath to support and defend the Constitution and
22 laws just like the state oath -- they take the oath to support
23 the Governor and the Constitution and laws of the state.

24 Now, these people, as I say, do more than military
25 service. When there are floods, they assist in that situation.

1 If there are riots, they handle riot situations. If they have
2 forest fires -- when Casper Mountain burned here a few years
3 ago, they were out there fighting that fire, and this is
4 typical of the National Guard with the diverse services that
5 they perform.

6 Now, let me tell you when any military service person,
7 whether they're in regular military service or
8 National Guard -- they take an oath, as I said, to support and
9 defend the Constitution and laws of our country and our
10 national and state leaders; but they also -- at the same time,
11 they pledge themselves to the government of our state and of
12 our country in the National Guard to yield the service, to
13 perform the service that is expected of those who belong to
14 those military units, including, if necessary, the giving of
15 their lives, and I think this is important that you understand
16 that.

17 Now, let me switch gears for just a minute and give
18 you an example of the kind of people that serve in our
19 National Guard. I have here a publication from an American
20 Legion publication that just goes out to the members. This is
21 something that you probably have not heard about through the
22 regular news media. It might have been on Fox News, but that
23 would be the only place. This deals with the National Guard of
24 Massachusetts. These -- this unit of the National Guard of
25 Massachusetts, every year while they were having the marathon

1 in Boston, also marched what they call a "tough ruck march"
2 where they have a rucksack on their back weighing at least 45
3 pounds; and so while the runners in their light running clothes
4 were running the marathon, these National Guardsmen were
5 marching in full dress with a rucksack, and they did the full
6 26.2 miles of that walk on those streets in Boston.

7 As they neared the finish line, the bombs went off,
8 and immediately the National Guardsmen's adrenaline began to
9 flow. You saw them on television where they were tearing the
10 fences down so as to get to the injured people and to assist in
11 those who had been injured in the course of those bombings.
12 You watched them. You watched them perform.

13 Now, the person who was commanding this particular
14 group on this day and who has marched in similar events for
15 five times now said that they -- the way he described it, that
16 the -- as soon as this event took place near the finish line,
17 they ordered the other guardsmen at the scene to help direct
18 people out of the chaos while the three men ran toward the
19 bombings and the bombing areas.

20 "'We just tore down that fence and just allowed us to
21 get in there and pull what was remaining: The burning debris,
22 burning clothes, all that stuff that was on these people, just
23 to try to clean it the best we could,' said Fiola who organized
24 the run." Some of those had been in the "war on terror," and
25 they saw the IEDs, the independent electronic devices that the

1 Muslims set off in Iraq and Afghanistan; and their comment was
2 "'just disturbing,' said Welch, who previously had served two
3 deployments in Iraq. 'I've obviously seen stuff like this
4 before, but to have it happen on our own turf is a little
5 different. Limbs gone. Fingers away from the bodies.'"

6 Their service didn't go unnoticed by the
7 Adjutant General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as they
8 call their state, "the Commonwealth." He said, "I know who
9 they were, and I'll be meeting with them personally." He said,
10 "This was a great tragedy. It's interesting that what
11 adrenaline does to you, and that feeling of adrenaline was in
12 the air yesterday afternoon. Some label it as fear; but for us
13 in the military, one of the things we do is channel that to be
14 a heightened sense of energy, to provide what assistance we can
15 at the scene. My three soldiers did just that, and they are
16 still out and about helping in Boston. Amongst the horror and
17 recriminations of what happened on Patriot's Day" -- and that's
18 a New England holiday, Patriot's Day on March 15th of every
19 year -- "it is important to bear in mind the guardsmen who
20 upheld the grand traditions of the Commonwealth. We cover a
21 lot of negative stuff, but these guys -- they exemplify
22 everything that is great about our country."

23 And I'd like to ask our National Guardsmen here to
24 stand once more. I want you to join me to give them a hand on
25 behalf of all the National Guardsmen of the State of Wyoming.

1 (Standing tribute and applause.)

2 **MR. LOWE:** Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen.

3 **THE COURT:** Thank you, Mr. Lowe.

4 At this time, I would recognize Ms. Everett and the
5 Daughters of the American Revolution: Susan Haines, Betty
6 Gosar, Jackie Carrico, Ann Robinson and Robin Broumley. I
7 believe there's a presentation that they may have.

8 Ms. Everett.

9 **MS. EVERETT:** Your Honor, where should I go?

10 **THE COURT:** Right there is perfect.

11 **MS. EVERETT:** Right here?

12 The DARs have enjoyed welcoming new citizens for a
13 long time. We particularly admire the time and effort that you
14 have taken to become part of our great nation. Each of us
15 became citizens the minute we were born, and each of us can
16 trace at least one of our ancestors to somebody who fought in
17 the American Revolution. Hence our name: "Daughters of the
18 American Revolution."

19 We are a very patriotic organization. For instance --
20 they've already left now -- this Thursday at NCHS, the DARs
21 will be awarding certificates and some scholarships and things
22 to a good citizen, those with very high grades, a Jr. ROTC
23 medal and a slight stipend of some sort. I can't -- at any
24 rate -- maybe one of them that served today. I'm not sure
25 because I don't know who it is.

1 At any rate, today you will be receiving some
2 pamphlets from my fellow -- sister DARs, and I know that you
3 have learned a lot of what the pamphlets in there have to say,
4 but there are some backgrounds on -- the backgrounds on our
5 Pledge of Allegiance, our national anthem, a pamphlet on
6 knowing your rights according to our Constitution, your
7 Constitution now; and most important to me, since I'm a flag
8 chairman at my Fort Casper Chapter, is the current flag code,
9 and I expect you to learn how to display and use the flag
10 better than some of our own citizens do now. So you teach them
11 that when you can. At any rate, welcome.

12 **THE COURT:** Thank you, Mrs. Everett.

13 (Packets presented to the new citizens by the Daughters of
14 the American Revolution.)

15 **THE COURT:** Thank you. And I would recognize, at this
16 time, Mr. Cohee with United Veterans Council of Natrona County.

17 And, Mr. Cohee, there's another entity or organization
18 you're also representing.

19 **MR. COHEE:** The flag pins are from the Veterans
20 Council; the flag pamphlets from the Elks Lodge.

21 **THE COURT:** Very well. I saw you there a couple weeks
22 ago, I believe. Good to see you.

23 **MR. COHEE:** I believe you did, too.

24 (Flag pins and pamphlets presented to the new citizens by
25 Mr. Cohee.)

1 **THE COURT:** Thank you, Mr. Cohee.

2 (Mr. Cohee salutes the American Flag.)

3 **THE COURT:** I would, at this time, recognize Mr. Dean
4 Welch with the American Legion.

5 **MR. WELCH:** Thank you, Your Honor. It's our honor to
6 be here with Stan Lowe as our Past Department Commander and
7 also our Post Commander and an honored World War II veteran;
8 and on behalf of Post 2 here in Casper, we'd like to present
9 these flags to each of the new citizens.

10 (Flags presented to the new citizens by Mr. Welch.)

11 **THE COURT:** Very well. Thank you.

12 **MR. WELCH:** Thank you, Your Honor.

13 **THE COURT:** Thank you, Mr. Welch.

14 I would also recognize the Disabled American Veterans:
15 George Robert Williams, David Stortz and Don Neville. Thank
16 you for being here today.

17 **MR. NEVILLE:** If it please the Court. We would like
18 to present the new citizens with a bucking horse pin as a
19 symbol of our love for them.

20 **THE COURT:** Thank you very much.

21 (Pins presented to the new citizens by Mr. Williams.)

22 **MR. WILLIAMS:** Thank you, sir, and also thank you very
23 much for your contributions and service that you give this
24 great land.

25 **THE COURT:** Thank you for your contributions and

1 service of all of you.

2 I would, at this time, recognize Senator Barrasso's
3 office, Marci Schlup and Brandi Haupt. I believe that there's
4 some -- they may have some letters they wish to hand out on
5 behalf of the congressional and the -- congressional
6 delegation. I also note we have Ms. Tinsley with
7 Senator Enzi's office, and we have Ms. King with Congressman
8 Lummis' office. If you ladies would like to make your
9 presentation. Thank you.

10 (Presentations made by the congressional delegation.)

11 **MS. TINSLEY:** Thank you.

12 **THE COURT:** Ms. Tinsley.

13 (Presentations completed by the congressional delegation.)

14 **THE COURT:** Thank you. Now, someone who you might
15 have had contact with but who you will want to contact if you
16 have any questions regarding documents or papers or immigration
17 issues, Mr. Chris Phillips with the United States Immigration
18 Office.

19 Is that your proper title, Mr. Phillips?

20 **MR. PHILLIPS:** Good enough, Judge.

21 **THE COURT:** All right. Thank you for your help today.

22 **MR. PHILLIPS:** Thank you.

23 **THE COURT:** At this time, I would play or direct that
24 we play the video message from the President of the
25 United States, President Obama.

1 (President Obama addresses the new citizens via videotape.)
2 (Video played with Lee Greenwood singing *God Bless the*
3 *USA.*)

4 **THE COURT:** Well, if that doesn't get you moving,
5 nothing will.

6 I, at this time, would recognize Mr. David Kubichek,
7 Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Wyoming, for any
8 remarks on behalf of the Attorney General of the United States.

9 **MR. KUBICHEK:** This is a special privilege to me to
10 speak to you on behalf of the Attorney General and the
11 president, both of whom are my bosses. You know, I got here
12 the easy way. I got to be a citizen because I was born here.
13 I didn't have to study. I didn't have to take a test. I
14 didn't have to know anything. I didn't have to swear an oath.
15 I just had to breathe and eat and grow up and it was mine, and
16 that probably represents most of us here today.

17 Some of us have worked harder to earn their standing
18 as citizens, and I refer to our members of the National Guard
19 and our veterans who have placed their lives on the line on
20 behalf of all of us and now all of you; but, you know, I had it
21 pretty easy. You all -- number one, you had to get here which
22 wasn't, I'm certain, the easiest thing in the world; and then
23 you had to study, and you had to learn and go to school and
24 take tests and prove that you knew what you were doing to be a
25 citizen, and you had it in here (counsel gesturing to his

1 heart) to be a contributing member of our country and our
2 society, and I think that's special, and I think all of you
3 should keep it in your heart that you've done something
4 special, and don't ever let any one of us who are citizens
5 diminish at all your citizenship because you weren't born here.
6 You've worked to get here. You've earned your citizenship and
7 that's special, and that's something to be congratulated;
8 that's something to be applauded.

9 You know, I've been doing this ceremony since at least
10 1994 when the previous incumbent who used to sit up there --
11 his picture's over there, Judge Downes -- who decided he wanted
12 to make this more of a deal than maybe it had been in the past.
13 So this has been sort of an evolving process. I've done this,
14 God knows, how many times with Stan Lowe. He was a young man
15 when we started doing this.

16 (Laughter)

17 **MR. KUBICHEK:** And probably as we've gone along, I've
18 had less and less to say because others said what needs to be
19 said so well, and the President that you just listened to said
20 it very well. We are so proud that you chose us, and we hope
21 we live up to your expectations.

22 You know, sometimes this all seems a little schlocky;
23 and, you know, I don't really -- you know, I talk the talk but,
24 you know, I don't really think about it as much as I should.
25 But about three months ago, my wife and I were looking to find

1 a person who could help us with housekeeping and the like once
2 a week, and we've gone through really several awful disasters;
3 and before we came upon Tiana, who, with some research, we were
4 fortunate to find -- she is a 30-plus-year young woman who
5 hails from Serbia and came here in the early '90s when her
6 country was engulfed in a horrible, horrible war where people
7 were killing each other, armies were marching on other people
8 not for anything important other than they didn't like their
9 religion, they didn't like their race, their ethnicities; and
10 they were dedicated, the Serbs versus the Bosnians versus God
11 knows whom else, to obliterate each other because of their
12 heritage, and she left that and was fortunate to get here and
13 leave a war-ravaged place, to come to this country as a young
14 girl in the early '90s and went to school in Florida and then
15 found her way here.

16 And one afternoon -- the one thing about Tiana that is
17 always, in every time, true is: If you start talking to her,
18 she will talk to you well into the evening if we don't shut it
19 down, and we had one afternoon where over my lunch hour, which
20 extended from about twelve o'clock till about four o'clock, she
21 told me her story; and the one thing that stood out about all
22 of that and it was something that struck me as special in what
23 a lot of you said is that you came here for the opportunity
24 that this place offers; and as I was hearing that, I was
25 thinking of Tiana and -- you know, and that's exactly right.

1 She's a young girl who, had she stayed in Serbia, might have
2 been killed because of her ethnic background, no other reason,
3 a delightful, beautiful, young person, and she's here and she
4 has a chance, and she's -- you know, we're not -- she's got a
5 dozen clients and businesses, and she's making a very nice
6 living for herself, and we trust her like we do our children,
7 and she's making a wonderful life for herself, and someday
8 she's going to marry her young lad who's her partner, and
9 they're going to have children, and they're going to have
10 wonderful parents, and they're going to grow up here, and they
11 will be able to do anything, and you and your children can do
12 anything.

13 Now, there's one job you guys can't have. You can't
14 be president. You know that because you read the Constitution,
15 I bet. And there are 13 of you here. (Gesturing towards the
16 Court) I think he's read the Constitution. I'm not certain.
17 I've read it. Probably not a lot of the rest of the people in
18 here have, you know, but what is special -- I mean, you can't
19 be president. I'm sorry. You just can't. You're not born
20 here, and that's the one -- that's the one rule we have that
21 discriminates, and we may not have that all that much longer,
22 but everything else here you can do and your children can do;
23 and if they were born here, they can be president and -- you
24 know, and the last -- the last three presidents we've had --
25 our current incumbent is a Black person whose mother is White,

1 whose father was Black, who grew up in a single-family
2 household in Kansas, originally Hawaii and then Kansas, you
3 know. President Bush was from Texas. President Clinton grew
4 up the son of a single mom basically in an abusive household in
5 Arkansas. President Bush grew up in relative affluence in
6 Connecticut. President Reagan was nobody in this little burg
7 in Illinois who knew he wanted to be a sportscaster. He ended
8 up being president. Stuff can happen, good stuff, and the only
9 thing that is between you or your children or their dreams is
10 effort and trying because the one thing that America offers is
11 opportunity if you're willing to seize it.

12 Now, we're not perfect. We have our share of
13 knuckleheads, you know. Everybody has, you know. Tiana, my
14 housekeeper, says she's periodically, by one of our local
15 knuckleheads, referred to as a "Communist" because she comes
16 from the former Yugoslavia. I can't help that. You know, we
17 can't help that there are knuckleheads everywhere. But for the
18 most part, your friends and your neighbors and your fellow
19 people here or in Riverton or Lander or Jackson, wherever you
20 live, are going to be glad you're with us just as glad as I am
21 you're with us.

22 Now, those of you who live in the local area, you
23 might be called to come down here and be a juror sometime, and
24 that would be way cool. Any of you could be picked to be a
25 grand juror, and that would be way cool. This is where I work,

1 and this is where the judge works, and this is, you know, the
2 place where sort of, on the ground, the promises of the
3 Constitution are carried out on sort of a day-to-day basis.
4 But -- you know, but in terms of your lives, you will enjoy
5 those protections and liberties in terms of just your
6 day-to-day lives, and the one thing I'll say to you is: Don't
7 forget where you came from, you know, your backgrounds, you
8 know, your stories of your lives and your traditions and your
9 cultures. Those enrich us, too. We are a country of
10 immigrants. Some of us -- you know, some of our families came
11 here farther ago; but, you know, your traditions, your cultures
12 your cuisine, all of it, you make us better.

13 So I am and the judge are what are standing between
14 you and cookies and punch and treats. So I'm going to wrap
15 this up, and thank you all again for your effort and for your
16 willingness and your enthusiasm to become part of us. You made
17 us better today, and for that we are all grateful. Thank you.

18 **THE COURT:** Thank you, Mr. Kubichek.

19 It is always amazing to me to see the various people
20 and the backgrounds, and it was interesting to hear today about
21 where you've come from and why you're here: For a better
22 opportunity.

23 This country was created by people seeking a better
24 opportunity. They were tired of the oppression and the tyranny
25 of others and came here to have more freedom in a fair and just

1 society and government, but it's extremely important that we
2 all recognize that it's a government by the people and for the
3 people. Its formation came at a great and, for many, an
4 ultimate cost. However, that was but a down payment. As noted
5 at the beginning of the ceremony, the price of our freedom
6 continues to be paid by those men and women in the
7 Armed Services and those who are running a marathon. At any
8 point in time, there are threats to our freedoms; and we, as
9 Americans, must realize that those threats challenge our
10 ability to maintain our freedoms.

11 I hope that all of us recognize and appreciate we are
12 united as Americans, and our freedoms we enjoy are not because
13 of our individuality but because of who we are and the
14 commitment we have made to one another as fellow citizens of
15 the United States of America. It is also important to note, as
16 Mr. Kubichek has discussed and as these men and women in the
17 Service have proven, we are obligated and committed as citizens
18 to perform various duties, and it is important that you take
19 that opportunity. You serve on a jury. You participate in
20 your community.

21 You -- unlike some of the countries that you've come
22 from, you have now received letters from our congressional
23 delegation. If you don't like what is happening, write a
24 letter to them. You have that right. If you don't like what
25 you see, you can stand on a street corner and you can protest.

1 That's not something that a lot of you could do in the
2 countries where you were originally born. You have the right,
3 and if we don't exercise that right, we run the risk of it
4 being lost. So participate. Be a member of your community, of
5 your neighborhood, of your country. Be engaged and
6 participate.

7 To our newest United States citizens, thank you for
8 wanting to be a part of that collective commitment; and may
9 those of us who have already made it or have been gifted it be
10 reminded what we have is cherished and sought after by others
11 throughout the world. As you stated, some of you, with respect
12 to your reasons for coming here, for the sake of all
13 United States citizens, I hope your dream of a better life and
14 opportunity comes true, and may that always be the case, and
15 may God continue to bless the United States of America.
16 Congratulations.

17 We shall stand in recess.

18 (Applause.)

19 **THE CLERK:** Our court is now in recess.

20 **(The proceedings conclude at 4:40 p.m.)**

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REPORTER CERTIFICATE

I, JAMIE L. HENDRICH, Official Federal Court Reporter
in the United States District Court for the District of
Wyoming, certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript
from the record of proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

05.16.13
Date

_____/S/_____
JAMIE L. HENDRICH, CSR-RPR-CRR
Official Federal Court Reporter

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