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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF WYOMING

In the Matter of the
Naturalization and Granting of
United States Citizenship to: Cheyenne, Wyoming
November 18, 2013
1:36 p.m.

KATHARINE ISABELLA MAINARDIS WINTERS
CONCEPCION RUIZ MOLINA Joseph C. O'Mahoney
FELICITAS RAYOS Federal Courthouse
MACARIA ZARSUELO DAVIS
SARAH JAYNE ROSE
DAVID ANDREW MESSENGER
NATHALIA GIORDANA COLLINS
LETICIA RAMIREZ GURNEY
TETIANA YURIYIVNA HUTCHISON
SAMUEL GUZMAN
FERNANDA APAROCIDA CREDI IN DIO PETERSON
SHELAGH NEEDHAM WARD
HONGLIN CUI CORTEZ,

Petitioners.

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING ON PETITIONS FOR
UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP AND NATURALIZATION CEREMONY

BEFORE THE HONORABLE ALAN B. JOHNSON
United States District Judge, Presiding
THE HONORABLE NANCY D. FREUDENTHAL
Chief United States District Judge
THE HONORABLE KELLY H. RANKIN
Chief United States Magistrate Judge
THE HONORABLE GREGORY A. PHILLIPS
United States Court of Appeals Judge

APPEARANCES:

For the Government: MR. MARK A. KLAASSEN
Assistant United States Attorney
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
P.O. Box 668
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Court Reporter: MS. JULIE H. THOMAS, RMR, CRR
Official U.S. Court Reporter
2120 Capitol Avenue, Room 2228
Cheyenne, WY 82001 CA CSR No. 9162

Proceedings recorded by mechanical stenography,
transcript produced by computer.

1 (Proceedings commenced 1:36 p.m.,
2 November 18, 2013.)

3 JUDGE JOHNSON: Thank you, ladies and gentlemen.
4 Please be seated.

5 It is my pleasure to introduce those who are seated
6 with me here this afternoon and to welcome all of you.

7 Seated on my left is Greg Phillips. Mr. Phillips is
8 the newest judicial officer for the District of Wyoming
9 representing us on the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals, the
10 appellate court from which all of our orders and decisions go
11 to for review. So we treat him with great respect.

12 On my right is our Chief Judge. She handles
13 all -- runs herd on all of the other judges of this District
14 and does so in a very kind and effective way. Nancy
15 Freudenthal.

16 And on my far right is the Chief Magistrate Judge for
17 the District of Wyoming, Kelly Rankin.

18 Ladies and gentlemen, the family of the federal court
19 for the District of Wyoming -- by the way, my name is Alan
20 Johnson -- and its judicial officers wish to extend a very
21 warm welcome to all who are attending this public ceremony
22 honoring our new citizens. Many in the audience are family
23 members and friends of the families represented by the
24 petitioners who will receive their citizenship today. Others
25 here represent patriotic organizations that recognize the

1 vital importance of these ceremonies that renew our common
2 heritage as a nation of immigrant citizens who have
3 contributed to and built upon the enduring principles that
4 have allowed the United States of America to prosper. And
5 we're very grateful for the service and the assistance of
6 these patriotic organizations who through the years have
7 insisted that there be a ceremony such as this to acknowledge
8 and welcome those who have taken the tests, who have had the
9 struggles, who have deliberately chosen to become citizens of
10 this most altruistic nation.

11 For those in the audience who wish to record this
12 ceremony with video or cameras, the court rules that prohibit
13 the recording devices in the courtrooms here are suspended.
14 Anyone who wishes to make recordings or photograph the
15 ceremony should feel free to come out, move about the
16 courtroom to find the best vantage point from which to capture
17 the images of the new citizens which they might wish to
18 preserve. This is not all that scary a ceremony. In
19 addition, photographs may be taken with family and friends as
20 well as judicial officers in front of the flag of the United
21 States after the ceremony before you go to enjoy the tea and
22 the welcoming provided by the Daughters of the American
23 Revolution.

24 And while I have your ears, I want to mention the
25 patriotic organizations that are represented here. American

1 Legion #6 Auxiliary, the Colonial Dames of America, the
2 Colonial Dames of the XVII Century, Daughters of the American
3 Revolution, Veterans of Foreign Wars 1881 Auxiliary, and
4 Veterans of Foreign Wars 4343 auxiliary. Ladies, we thank you
5 for your patriotism and your service to this Court and to
6 these important ceremonies.

7 I'd again remind you that refreshments will be served
8 right across the hall by the Daughters of the American
9 Revolution as soon as this ceremony ends.

10 We are extremely pleased today that the St. Mary's
11 School Concert Choir, under the direction of Patrick Stolz,
12 will perform and enhance this ceremony for you.

13 And I see seated here in front of me is Assistant
14 United States Attorney Mark Klaassen. Mr. Klaassen will be
15 making the motion for citizenship for each of the individuals.
16 And I would ask each, as your name is called -- and who is
17 going to call the roll of the citizens? Will you?

18 MR. KLAASSEN: I can do it, Your Honor. Yes.

19 JUDGE JOHNSON: Will you each please stand as your
20 name is called so that we'll be able to see you, and remain
21 standing because I will come down and administer the oath.

22 MR. KLAASSEN: Thank you, Your Honor.

23 JUDGE JOHNSON: Mr. Klaassen.

24 MR. KLAASSEN: May it please the Court. My name is
25 Mark Klaassen. I am here today appearing as a representative

1 for the United States Attorney's Office for the District of
2 Wyoming as well as on behalf of the Attorney General for the
3 United States. It's my privilege to introduce to the Court
4 the following individuals who appear in person for a hearing
5 on their petitions for naturalization as United States
6 citizens.

7 And as Judge Johnson has just indicated, as I call
8 your name if you could please stand.

9 Katherine Isabella Mainardis Winters, a, a native and
10 former inhabitant of the United Kingdom.

11 Concepcion Ruiz Molina, a native and former
12 inhabitant of Mexico.

13 Felicitas Rayos, a native and former inhabitant of
14 Mexico.

15 Macaria Zarsuelo Davis, a native and former
16 inhabitant of the Philippines.

17 Sarah Jayne Rose, a native and former inhabitant of
18 Canada.

19 David Andrew Messenger, a native and former
20 inhabitant of Canada.

21 Nathalia Giordana Collins, a native and former
22 inhabitant of Venezuela.

23 Leticia Ramirez Gurney, a native and former
24 inhabitant of Mexico.

25 Tetiana Yuriyivna Hutchison, a native and former

1 inhabitant of the Ukraine.

2 Samuel Guzman, a native and former inhabitant of
3 Mexico.

4 Fernanda Credi In Dio Peterson, a native and former
5 inhabitant of Brazil.

6 Shelagh Needham Ward, a native and former inhabitant
7 of the United Kingdom.

8 Honglin Cui Cortez, a native and former inhabitant of
9 the People's Republic of China.

10 Thank you all. You can be seated.

11 Your Honor, each of these individuals has been
12 interviewed and examined under oath by a designated examiner
13 of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services who
14 has completed the character and background investigation.
15 Citizenship and Immigration Services indicates that each of
16 these individuals has met all requirements for naturalization
17 and is well qualified as a desirable candidate for United
18 States citizenship. As a fellow citizen, I want to welcome
19 and congratulate each of these petitioners on this very
20 special occasion. And so, on the recommendation of the
21 immigration officer, it is my honor to move that all of these
22 petitioners be granted United States citizenship upon taking
23 of the oath.

24 JUDGE JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Klaassen.

25 The remaining task to be performed will be the taking

1 of the oath of citizenship. I think I will perform that task
2 from this location. It appears a little crowded down below.
3 I'll ask that all of you stand and repeat after me, after you
4 raise your right hands.

5 Ladies and gentlemen, those of you who are citizens
6 by birth and have grown up in the United States, I urge you to
7 listen carefully to this very lengthy and, for some, difficult
8 to pronounce oath if you're not very familiar with the English
9 language. All of these folks have taken tests. They probably
10 know more about being a citizen of the United States than you
11 ever will, but this is a good reminder of the obligations that
12 are taken by a new citizen.

13 Are you ready? Please repeat after me.

14 I hereby declare on oath --

15 PETITIONERS: I hereby declare on oath --

16 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- that I absolutely and entirely --

17 PETITIONERS: -- that I absolutely and entirely --

18 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- renounce and abjure --

19 PETITIONERS: -- renounce and abjure --

20 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- all allegiance and fidelity --

21 PETITIONERS: -- all allegiance and fidelity --

22 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- to any foreign prince --

23 PETITIONERS: -- to any foreign prince --

24 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- potentate --

25 PETITIONERS: -- potentate --

1 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- state --
2 PETITIONERS: -- state --
3 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- or sovereign --
4 PETITIONERS: -- or sovereign --
5 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- of whom --
6 PETITIONERS: -- of whom --
7 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- or which I have --
8 PETITIONERS: -- or which I have --
9 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- heretofore been --
10 PETITIONERS: -- heretofore been --
11 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- a subject or citizen --
12 PETITIONERS: -- a subject or citizen --
13 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- that I will support --
14 PETITIONERS: -- that I will support --
15 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- and defend --
16 PETITIONERS: -- and defend --
17 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- the Constitution --
18 PETITIONERS: -- the Constitution --
19 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- and the laws --
20 PETITIONERS: -- and the laws --
21 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- of the United States of America --
22 PETITIONERS: -- of the United States of America --
23 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- against all enemies --
24 PETITIONERS: -- against all enemies --
25 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- foreign and domestic --

1 PETITIONERS: -- foreign and domestic --
2 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- that I will bear true faith --
3 PETITIONERS: -- that I will bear true faith --
4 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- and allegiance --
5 PETITIONERS: -- and allegiance --
6 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- to the same --
7 PETITIONERS: -- to the same --
8 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- that I will bear arms --
9 PETITIONERS: -- that I will bear arms --
10 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- on behalf of the United States --
11 PETITIONERS: -- on behalf of the United States --
12 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- when required by law --
13 PETITIONERS: -- when required by law --
14 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- that I will perform --
15 PETITIONERS: -- that I will perform --
16 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- noncombatant service --
17 PETITIONERS: -- noncombatant service --
18 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- in the armed forces --
19 PETITIONERS: -- in the armed forces --
20 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- of the United States --
21 PETITIONERS: -- of the United States --
22 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- when required by law --
23 PETITIONERS: -- when required by law --
24 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- that I will perform work --
25 PETITIONERS: -- that I will perform work --

1 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- of national importance --

2 PETITIONERS: -- of national importance --

3 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- under civilian direction --

4 PETITIONERS: -- under civilian direction --

5 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- when required by law --

6 PETITIONERS: -- when required by law --

7 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- and --

8 PETITIONERS: -- and --

9 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- that I take this obligation
10 freely --

11 PETITIONERS: -- that I take this obligation
12 freely --

13 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- without any mental reservation --

14 PETITIONERS: -- without any mental reservation --

15 JUDGE JOHNSON: -- or purpose of evasion.

16 PETITIONERS: -- or purpose of evasion.

17 JUDGE JOHNSON: Congratulations, you have taken that
18 lengthy oath that really summarizes the obligations -- some of
19 the obligations that we, as citizens, have. We're going to be
20 discussing the rights that you have today as well.

21 I think this would be an appropriate time for each of
22 us who are citizens of the United States of America, including
23 this group -- Mr. Klaassen, I grant the motion that you have
24 made and declare that they are now citizens with all the
25 rights, obligations, and privileges just as if they were born

1 in the United States and equal to anyone else because they are
2 the same as each and every one of us. Let us all stand and
3 pledge allegiance.

4 (Pledge of Allegiance.)

5 JUDGE JOHNSON: Thank you. Please be seated.

6 Again, we're extremely pleased to have with us the
7 St. Mary's School Concert Choir to sing our Star-Spangled
8 Banner.

9 ("The Star Spangled Banner" performed by
10 St. Mary's School Concert Choir, under the
11 direction of Mr. Patrick Stolz.)

12 JUDGE JOHNSON: Would you please present words of
13 congratulations and honor from the President of the United
14 States.

15 (Video message from President Barack Obama
16 played as follows:

17 "It's an honor and a privilege to call you
18 a fellow citizen of the United States of
19 America. This is now officially your country,
20 your home to protect, to defend, and to serve
21 through active and engaged citizenship.
22 Together, we are a nation united not by any one
23 culture, or ethnicity, or ideology, but by the
24 principles of opportunity, equality, and liberty
25 that are enshrined in our founding documents.

1 Today marks a very special day in your life.
2 You've traveled a long path to get here. You've
3 sworn a solemn oath to this country and now have
4 all the rights of citizenship. With the
5 privilege of citizenship, though, come great
6 responsibilities. And so I ask that you use
7 your freedoms and your talents to contribute to
8 the good of our nation and the world. Always
9 remember that in America no dream is impossible.
10 Like the millions of immigrants who have come
11 before you, you have the opportunity to enrich
12 this country through your contributions to civic
13 society, business, culture, and your community.
14 You can help write the next great chapter in our
15 American story. And together we can keep the
16 beacon that is America burning bright for all
17 the world to see. I am proud to welcome you as
18 a new citizen of this country. May God bless
19 you, and may God continue to bless the United
20 States of America.")

21 JUDGE JOHNSON: Great words by our great President.
22 Is the Clerk of Court prepared to present the
23 certificates of citizenship?

24 Again, if there are family members who want to take
25 photographs, need to move forward here or come through the

1 gate, feel free to do so.

2 (Presentation of Certificates of Citizenship.)

3 JUDGE JOHNSON: I think each of the patriotic
4 organizations wishes to make presentations, the American
5 Legion Post first.

6 Presenting today from the American Legion Post
7 Auxiliary are Eva Moore, Freeda Warren, and Linda Byrd.

8 (Presentation of American Flag Code.)

9 JUDGE JOHNSON: Colonial Dames of America,
10 representing that organization are Dorothy Torkelson, Ibbey
11 Davis, and Tiffany Smith.

12 (Presentation of U.S. Constitution.)

13 JUDGE JOHNSON: Colonial Dames of the XVII Century,
14 presenters are Billie Neff and Vanelda Mellbloom, presenting
15 the Wyoming Constitution.

16 (Presentation of Wyoming Constitution.)

17 JUDGE JOHNSON: I believe the Star-Spangled Banner
18 booklet is being presented by Daughters of the American
19 Revolution, represented by Donna Weaver, Pam Imig, and Brenda
20 Rath.

21 (Presentation of Star-Spangled Banner booklet.)

22 JUDGE JOHNSON: And I want to correct misinformation
23 that I gave earlier. The tea today will be sponsored by
24 Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary 1881. Diana Shinneman and
25 Carol Tabor are here.

1 And the American Flag is presented by VFW, Veterans
2 of Foreign Wars, 4343 Auxiliary, and Mary Lou Lynn is here
3 with the flag.

4 (Presentation of American Flag.)

5 JUDGE JOHNSON: I might mention that as part of the
6 petitions that were filed for naturalization names have been
7 changed as requested for Ms. Winters, for Ms. Rayos, for
8 Miss Collins, and for Miss Dio Peterson.

9 I also wish to recognize a very special person who is
10 here with us this afternoon. The officer from the Immigration
11 and Naturalization Service, Dana Lindauer.

12 Mr. Lindauer, would you stand and be recognized.

13 This is Mr. Lindauer. Thank you. I noticed this
14 morning when I arrived already we had new citizens arriving to
15 be meeting with Mr. Lindauer to get their paperwork taken care
16 of, and he arrived bright and early as well as part of that.

17 Well, Wyoming is blessed because we have a
18 congressional delegation, and we're small, and we know the
19 folks who serve us in Congress in Washington, D.C. And they
20 do not wish to miss an opportunity to meet and to recognize
21 our new citizens.

22 Mike Enzi, our senior United States Senator, is here
23 today, not in person but by letter, to welcome the new
24 citizens. Who is --

25 MS. DEBBIE McCANN: I am.

1 JUDGE JOHNSON: By the way, offices of our United
2 States Senators are maintained on this floor of this building.
3 They maintain offices also at other locations in Wyoming,
4 Casper, I think, and Gillette. But should you have business
5 in those offices, you should feel free to come here to meet
6 with your representatives of your congressional delegation.

7 Representing Senator Enzi is Debbie McCann, who is
8 the administrator of his office here in Cheyenne. So all of
9 you have now met Debbie. You should feel free to see her if
10 you have business.

11 (Presentation of letters from Senator Mike Enzi
12 and Representative Cynthia Lummis.)

13 JUDGE JOHNSON: Laura Curran, are you performing
14 double duty today representing both the Senator as well as the
15 Congresswoman?

16 MS. LAURA CURRAN: Just Senator Barrasso today.

17 JUDGE JOHNSON: All right.

18 MS. DEBBIE McCANN: I handed out letters also from
19 Representative Lummis at their request.

20 JUDGE JOHNSON: Thank you very much. So each of the
21 citizens has the greeting from Congressman Lummis. And Laura
22 Curran is passing out Senator Barrasso's letter of greeting.

23 (Presentation of letter from Senator John
24 Barrasso.)

25 JUDGE JOHNSON: We have a very special treat for each

1 of our new citizens and for the audience this morning. The
2 Court wishes to welcome the spouse of our senior United States
3 Senator Mike Enzi. Diana Marie Enzi is the person who's
4 provided the leadership to Senator Enzi day by day at home and
5 out in the public to assist him at his side. She graduated
6 and is a native of Sheridan, Wyoming, attended the University
7 of Wyoming and became a teacher, and has her master's degree
8 in adult education from the University of Wyoming, raised her
9 family here in Wyoming, son Brad, daughters Amy and Emily.
10 Diana has served as president of the International Neighbors
11 Club, former president of the Congressional Club, is a member
12 of the Senate Spouses Club, has managed the family business,
13 the Enzi shoe stores, and while in this capacity she was
14 actively involved in all of the business-oriented
15 organizations in Campbell County in Wyoming, president of the
16 Gillette Chamber of Commerce, served on the Wyoming Private
17 Industry Council, and served six years on the Wyoming State
18 Council on Vocational Education as well as a term as chairman,
19 and was chairman of The Heart of Gillette.

20 She has a special interest in those countries that
21 are fighting to save the crippling problem of land mines that
22 exist in so many other locations in the world and rob people
23 of their limbs and lives on a daily basis and started CHAMPS
24 or Children Against the Land Mine Problem. School children
25 across Wyoming gave a quarter, helped raise enough money to

1 send a dog, aptly named Wyoming, to Sri Lanka. This is a
2 trained dog for detecting the explosives in land mines so that
3 they can be disarmed and children saved. She now serves on
4 the National Apprenticeship Advisory Committee.

5 We are very, very proud today to have a Wyoming
6 citizen, first citizen, and native of Wyoming speak to us
7 about citizenship, Diana Enzi.

8 MRS. ENZI: Thank you very much, Judge Johnson.

9 I have to take my glasses off to read my paper. I
10 can't see you very well anymore, but I can see the paper a lot
11 better. My introduction was actually way longer than my
12 speech. You'll be happy to know that. So it isn't very long.

13 Congratulations. It's an honor to be among the first
14 to acknowledge you as our newest class of citizens of the
15 United States of America. Today is a very special day you'll
16 remember for a long time. You can mark on the calendar this
17 is a special day, and I hope every November 18th you'll
18 celebrate it just like you would a birthday, have cake, light
19 a sparkler, sing a patriotic song, and say to yourself: I am
20 a citizen of the United States of America, and I earned it.
21 We are very proud of you for this accomplishment.

22 My husband, Senator Enzi, loves naturalization
23 ceremonies also, to see people who have earned citizenship
24 rather than just given -- it was given to them at their birth
25 is a very moving moment. I wish all Americans could witness

1 what we will witness today. They would never again take for
2 granted their right for citizenship, I think.

3 When each of our children turned 18, Mike would go to
4 school, sign them out of school, take them to lunch, and he
5 took them to the courthouse to register to vote. We didn't
6 tell them how to vote, but we did -- or how to register, but
7 they did get their card. It was a rite of passage in our
8 family, and each of our kids was very proud of that. And then
9 they would march to the polls their very first time to cast
10 their ballot, and we were as proud as they. They felt like it
11 was almost like a passport, they were that proud of it at the
12 time, and it really was. It was their acknowledgment that
13 they were adults, as far as citizenship is concerned in this
14 country, and that they had rights and responsibilities with
15 that. We were very, very excited, and I know when you cast
16 your first ballot you will feel the same way.

17 I do kids camp with our grandchildren every summer.
18 I'm a grandma, and this is my best job I ever had, and I love
19 it. A couple of years ago I had the American Legion come and
20 tell our grandchildren how to respect the flag. And now
21 they're this big, but every time they see a United States flag
22 they stand up really tall and they say "God bless America,"
23 and then they look around at all the adults like, well, what's
24 wrong with you? So it's been a good thing.

25 Over the years Mike has periodically had his staff

1 take the citizenship test, the long one that used to be 100
2 questions, and all of us were surprised about what we did not
3 know and should have paid better attention in civics class. I
4 always remember that I could not remember the 13 original
5 states, and it was Delaware I missed, and that's the first
6 state, but I won't ever forget it again. So last night I went
7 online, and I answered the ten-question practice test, and
8 I'll be darned, I missed one. I was really embarrassed. But
9 you know why? Because I didn't read the question good enough.
10 Do you remember what you learned in school, read the question
11 first, read the answers? I didn't do that. I just crossed
12 off the first one because I knew it was right, and there were
13 really three that were right, and I missed the test. I know
14 there are so many citizens of our country that could not pass
15 that ten-question test that you had to study so hard for, so
16 I'm really proud of you for putting in the time to do that.

17 I want to share a story about another naturalized
18 citizen of the United States, Constantino Brumidi. He's very
19 famous at the United States Capitol in Washington, D.C. He is
20 the brilliant artist who created the frescoes in the halls and
21 in the rooms of the United States Capitol. His masterpiece is
22 the Apotheosis of Washington, which is painted in the Capitol
23 dome. And if you come to Washington, I will give you a
24 special tour of the Capitol. But here's what's special about
25 Brumidi today. He was born in Rome in 1805 to a Greek father

1 and an Italian mother. He immigrated to America in 1849 after
2 the French took over Rome. He didn't like that very well, so
3 he left. In 1852 he became a naturalized citizen. He painted
4 at the Capitol for 25 years starting at \$8 a day. He was
5 proud of his artistic creations and received many accolades
6 and awards. In 2005 a special ceremony was held in the
7 Capitol to recognize his newly restored works. And in 2008 he
8 was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.
9 But what do I want you to remember about this brilliant
10 artist? When asked how he wished to be remembered, he did not
11 say artist of the Capitol, he did not say creator of beautiful
12 works, he said, "I want to be known as Constantino Brumidi,
13 citizen of the United States."

14 Ladies and gentlemen, you are now citizens of the
15 United States. I'm proud to know you.

16 JUDGE JOHNSON: Wonderful remarks to remember. Thank
17 you, Ms. Enzi.

18 The Latin phrase "E Pluribus Unum" was at an earlier
19 time considered to be the national motto of the United States.
20 However, in 1956 the United States Congress passed a
21 resolution that adopted the phrase "In God We Trust" as the
22 official motto. E Pluribus Unum means out of many one or,
23 more simply, one from many. Originally E Pluribus Unum was
24 thought to mean that one nation arose from the many original
25 colonies or states that formed the union. However, today the

1 more powerful meaning suggests that out of many peoples,
2 races, religions, and ancestries has emerged a nation, a
3 multicultural nation. Today more than one-fifth of the
4 population of the United States is composed of immigrants and
5 their children. These people did not abandon their culture,
6 their race, their ethnicity, nor their religion when they
7 chose to immigrate to this great nation. With modern
8 communication and devices such as Skype, FaceTime, YouTube,
9 and other social media, it is an easy matter for the immigrant
10 to remain in touch with family and friends in their countries
11 of origin. While the idea of giving up any unique identifier
12 connected to an immigrant's place of origin to become an
13 American has faded with time and experience, it has never been
14 a requirement that a new citizen give up or relinquish their
15 culture, ethnicity, race, or religion to be an American.

16 So what does it mean to be an American? There
17 certainly are many opinions about that single question.
18 Propositions that usually come to mind are those of the
19 nation's founders which they believed would create a new kind
20 of society providing opportunity and freedom. The
21 propositions are that all men and women are created equal,
22 that inheritance status should play no role in the nation's
23 life, that the law should treat all citizens alike, that
24 government be designed in a manner that prevents the majority
25 from tyrannizing the minority. These are large concepts that

1 defy easy translation to daily life and our work. However,
2 Americans enjoy and participate in the democracy by voting,
3 volunteering, voicing opinions, and by serving their
4 government as politicians, as jurors, as military members, and
5 in a myriad of occupations and volunteer capacities. They
6 enjoy a nation that lives under and enforces the rules of law,
7 giving predictability to daily life. And Americans are and
8 should be conscious of the language used in public that is
9 tolerant and accepting of others.

10 These are the shared ideals that hold us together as
11 Americans while we also celebrate our unique family heritage.
12 Tolerance and acceptance, democracy and meritocracy. These
13 comprise our national myth. E Pluribus Unum, out of many one.
14 Let us share the ideals of our nation in our lives together
15 and make room for those features that make each unique and
16 special person. Congratulations on your new status as fellow
17 Americans, and best wishes for your lives ahead.

18 It's my honor now to introduce you to our Chief
19 Magistrate Judge Kelly Rankin, who may have a few words for
20 you.

21 JUDGE RANKIN: Thank you very much, Judge Johnson.

22 Well, welcome. You are all new Americans.
23 Congratulations to each of you. We heard your oath, and you
24 took a very, very long oath. I thought it might be helpful to
25 give you a little perspective about the history of that oath.

1 It has been given to citizens such as yourselves for a very
2 long time. In fact, the first officially recorded oaths of
3 allegiance were made in 1778 at Valley Forge during the
4 American Revolutionary War. So now you join new Americans
5 like yourselves who for 235 years have taken this exact same
6 oath.

7 So what does it mean to be an American? You've
8 thought about this, I'm sure, a great deal. Of course, as
9 Judge Johnson said, it means you get to vote, you get to be
10 jurors, and you get to now enjoy all of the freedoms and
11 liberties of newly sworn citizens of the United States of
12 America. No doubt these are very important rights and
13 liberties, rights and liberties that people all over the world
14 envy. But what else does it mean to be an American? Well,
15 mostly it means that we are free. Abraham Lincoln said,
16 quote: "Freedom is not the right to do what we want but what
17 we ought. Let us have faith that right makes might, and in
18 that faith let us to the end dare to do our duty as we
19 understand it."

20 More than freedom, as President Theodore Roosevelt
21 once said, Americanism is a question of principles, of
22 idealism, of character. It is not a matter of birthplace or
23 creed or line of descent. I would only add that this
24 country's power lies in its citizens' uniqueness and in their
25 unity.

1 You are doing more here today than completing a legal
2 process. You are making a lifelong promise to uphold the laws
3 and the values that make America what it is. That promise
4 comes with great privileges of American citizenship, and it
5 also comes with great responsibilities. New employment and
6 leadership doors are beginning to open for you widely today,
7 and I would encourage you to explore what lies behind each of
8 those doors. And there's no doubt all of your communities
9 have much to gain from each of you for years to come.

10 Again, congratulations and welcome. You've all
11 worked incredibly hard to earn your citizenship, and I know I
12 speak for all of your Wyoming neighbors when I say we are
13 grateful to have you.

14 JUDGE JOHNSON: Judge Phillips confessed to me that
15 this is his first naturalization ceremony, and I hope that it
16 is all that it's supposed to mean to you, and we'd like to
17 hear your remarks, sir.

18 JUDGE PHILLIPS: Thank you very much, Judge Johnson.

19 And it is my first one, but it's not the first one
20 I've heard spoken of, because in talking with judges, before I
21 was fortunate enough to become one, they would oftentimes tell
22 me that this is the favorite thing they do. And as I sit here
23 and I look across the sea of faces and at you all who have
24 achieved this today, I understand why.

25 We're very happy to be here today with you. First

1 and foremost, because we get to share in your achievement.
2 You put the hard work in, and we get to soak some of your joy
3 up with you. And the second is that we work with these laws
4 and our Constitution every day, and, like all of our fellow
5 citizens, we love our country very much and the principles
6 that it's founded on, and so we're also very happy that we
7 know with you joining us as fellow citizens that we have a
8 stronger country yet. We're stronger with you than we were
9 without you.

10 And, finally, I would just say welcome to you as our
11 fellow citizens as we are yours. Thank you for including me
12 in this ceremony.

13 JUDGE JOHNSON: And Chief Judge Freudenthal, will you
14 have the last word.

15 JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: Thank you, Judge Johnson. Thank
16 you for presiding over this wonderful ceremony.

17 I think I would like to begin by inviting everybody
18 who is here today, out of respect for the new citizens, to
19 stand and applaud the effort and commitment and pledge that
20 our new citizens have taken.

21 (Applause.)

22 JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: Thank you. And we all know that
23 citizenship, whether it's provided to us at birth or afforded
24 through sweat, effort, and tears, does not occur in a vacuum.
25 You, as newly admitted citizens, depended upon and received

1 support from your families and loved ones, and I would invite
2 you similarly to wave or applaud those members in the audience
3 who are important to you.

4 (Applause.)

5 JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: Now, in turning to the oath, as
6 has been remarked upon, you've taken a pledge through that
7 oath, a promise. You also pledged allegiance to the flag of
8 this country and to the country for which it stands. That
9 pledge of allegiance comes with the difficult pledge to
10 renounce your allegiance to states and sovereignties to which
11 you were previously affiliated. That sometimes and I suspect
12 it's natural that it would feel difficult to renounce and
13 abjure, an odd word, your allegiance to your former country.
14 It's important, though, to reflect that what you are
15 renouncing isn't your culture, your heritage, your ethnic
16 background, or your culture. It is your allegiance to another
17 government. And so by pledging your heart and your allegiance
18 to this government, you must renounce your allegiance to the
19 other, but don't confuse that with turning your back on where
20 you come from and the loved ones that are in that country of
21 your birth.

22 I have to say that for over 200 years people like you
23 have really blessed this country of ours because for that
24 period of time, if not longer, we've had a constant infusion
25 of new people from other countries who've brought their

1 language, their culture, their heritage, and that combination
2 enriches this country so greatly. And so today you have
3 indeed blessed us by becoming a part of this larger family of
4 Americans.

5 Now, as new Americans, you might hear different
6 voices in this country, voices suggesting that there's one way
7 to think, one way to act, one way to hold your faith and
8 religion, or one way to have a set of values. I would
9 encourage that you not believe those voices. You can practice
10 your religion of choice or no religion at all. You can hold
11 your values, those values that make up the fabric of who you
12 are. You can hold your political, economic, and social views,
13 whether they be on the right, on the left, or anywhere in
14 between. In fact, it's against what this country stands for
15 to pigeonhole people into one way of thinking and believing.
16 Conformity of thought, conformity of belief is contrary to the
17 principles that this country was founded upon.

18 Mrs. Enzi, thank you very much for your remarks
19 today. I've looked forward to you joining us for several
20 months. I'm glad that it worked out. I know that you and the
21 Senator are quite busy with your family, with your day jobs,
22 and with everything else going on in your life. Thank you
23 very much for joining us and being part of this wonderful
24 ceremony.

25 Mrs. Enzi spoke of one great story of the artist who

1 graced our national Capitol with lovely images. I'd like to
2 speak of another. This is the story of Felix Frankfurter.
3 Felix Frankfurter came to this country from Austria in 1894.
4 Mr. Frankfurter came when he was only 12 years old. He became
5 a naturalized citizen. Through the course of his life he
6 became a justice on the United States Supreme Court. What we
7 have here is a magistrate judge, two trial judges, Judge
8 Johnson and I, and an appellate judge, Judge Phillips.
9 Judge Frankfurter held the office above the appellate judge at
10 the circuit level, so he was way at the top at the United
11 States Supreme Court. He believed that in this country the
12 highest office a person could hold is the office of citizen.
13 Much like the story from Mrs. Enzi, he set aside his great
14 office of Justice of the United States Supreme Court and
15 turned to that office of citizen and said that is the highest
16 office in this country.

17 You've now assumed that high office with all of its
18 rights, privileges, and duties. You have the duty to
19 participate in the political process, the duty to be informed,
20 the duty to serve on our juries, the duty to vote and, yes,
21 even the duty to pay taxes, but as a high office holder you
22 have the duty to make this country the country that you sought
23 in your dreams and the country that you want it to be.

24 Congratulations again on assuming the high office of
25 citizen.

1 JUDGE JOHNSON: Thank you, Chief.

2 Mr. Stolz, I believe we have another musical
3 interlude with the St. Mary's children's choir or Concert
4 Choir. I'm sorry.

5 MR. PATRICK STOLZ: Judge, we are so honored to be
6 here today to welcome our new American citizens to the United
7 States, and before we present our final number, which is a
8 spiritual, "Freedom is Coming," one of our students, Riley
9 Roedel, is going to read the preamble of the Constitution of
10 the United States.

11 MR. RILEY ROEDEL: "We the people of the United
12 States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish
13 justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common
14 defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings
15 of liberty to ourselves and our prosperity, do ordain and
16 establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

17 JUDGE JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Roedel.

18 ("Freedom is Coming" performed by St. Mary's
19 School Concert Choir, under the direction of
20 Mr. Patrick Stolz.)

21 JUDGE JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Stolz.

22 MR. PATRICK STOLZ: You're welcome.

23 JUDGE JOHNSON: Thank you, Concert Choir from
24 St. Mary's.

25 THE CHOIR: You're welcome.

1 JUDGE JOHNSON: You were wonderful, and we are so
2 pleased to have you in our courtroom. Mr. Roedel, for your
3 presentation. We thank Diana Enzi for being with us today to
4 provide a very special greeting for our new citizens.

5 New citizens, we're so proud to have you in your
6 courtroom. This is your courtroom, and we're here to serve
7 you as citizens.

8 Ladies and gentlemen, it is a pleasure to see all of
9 you expressing an interest in support for this ceremony.
10 Again we thank the patriotic organizations.

11 They are faithful, caring, and wonderful, and we
12 appreciate their service to this court.

13 Don't forget, we're serving tea and cake today and
14 getting better acquainted, so please join in the jury room
15 across the hall with your families and friends.

16 (Proceedings concluded 2:35 p.m.,
17 November 18, 2013.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, JULIE H. THOMAS, Official Court Reporter for the United States District Court for the District of Wyoming, a Registered Merit Reporter and Certified Realtime Reporter, do hereby certify that I reported by machine shorthand the proceedings contained herein on the aforementioned subject on the date herein set forth, and that the foregoing pages constitute a full, true and correct transcript.

Dated this 28th day of January, 2014.

/s/ Julie H. Thomas

JULIE H. THOMAS
Official Court Reporter
Registered Merit Reporter
Certified Realtime Reporter
CA CSR No. 9162