

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF WYOMING

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IN THE MATTER OF THE  
NATURALIZATION AND GRANTING OF  
UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP TO:

Cheyenne, Wyoming  
December 3, 2018  
10:05 a.m.  
Joseph C. O'Mahoney  
Federal Building

LEANNE OLSEN, MAYSAM SAYYED  
MOUSAVIRAAD, GREGORY BROWN, NATALIA  
BROWN, KAM WENG NG, NYAMADZAVO NYAMADZAVO,  
KERRY RUADIL, ARVIN RUADIL, MAWARDI  
ABDURAHAMAN USSO, NAOMI LOUISE WARD,  
PHUONG DOAN, ANA DE SANCHEZ, CRISTAL SHORTY,  
EMMA SARABIA, TERESA LEHMANN,

Petitioners.

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

BEFORE THE HONORABLE NANCY D. FREUDENTHAL  
United States District Judge, Presiding  
THE HONORABLE ALAN B. JOHNSON  
United States District Judge  
THE HONORABLE KELLY H. RANKIN  
Chief United States Magistrate Judge

APPEARANCES:

For the United States: C. LEVI MARTIN  
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Proceedings recorded by mechanical stenography, transcript  
produced with computer.

(Proceedings commenced 10:05 a.m., December 3, 2018.)

JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: Please be seated. Good morning.

The first order of business will be to suspend the rule prohibiting cameras in the courtroom. If there are family members who wish to take photos, please feel free to do so. Please, in some orderly fashion, if you want to get a little closer for photography reasons, come -- just come through the swinging door that separates the gallery from the well and help us enjoy in wonderful occasion for naturalization.

Again. Welcome. This is an occasion, speaking on behalf of all the judges and anyone who regularly participates, that is just such a joyous experience. I only wish more of our citizenry could be here to share with the newly naturalized citizens and their families the process of becoming American citizens.

I would like to thank Ryan Herman. There you are in the front row. He's the Denver representative from Immigration who has been a part of guiding us through this process and part of the larger organizations that assist our citizenship system and the citizens in their -- in the process of finding their way through that often lengthy and sometimes complicated and occasionally confusing process.

With that, can I call on you, Mr. Martin, for the roll call of the citizens to be naturalized?

MR. MARTIN: Thank you. Good morning, Your Honor.

JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: Good morning.

MR. MARTIN: Levi Martin, representative of the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Wyoming and in proxy for the Attorney General of the United States.

It is my privilege, Your Honor, to introduce to the Court the following individuals who appear for their hearing on their petitions for naturalization as United States citizens. And seated beginning in the front row from left to the right and then back again, we have Leanne Olsen, native and former inhabitant of Denmark; we have Maysam Sayyed Mousaviraad, native and former inhabitant of Iran; Gregory Brown, native and former inhabitant of Jamaica, along with his wife, Natalia Brown, also native and former inhabitant of Jamaica; we have Kam Weng NG, native and former inhabitant of Malaysia; Nyamadzavo Nyamadzavo, native and former inhabitant of Zimbabwe; Kerry Ruadil, native and former inhabitant of the Philippines; Arvin Ruadil, native and former inhabitant of the Philippines; Mawardi Abdurahaman Usso, native and former inhabitant of Ethiopia; Naomi Louise Ward, native and former inhabitant of Australia; Phuong Doan, native and former inhabitant of Vietnam; Ana de Sanchez, native and former inhabitant of Mexico; Cristal Shorty, native and former inhabitant of Mexico; Emma Sarabia, native and former inhabitant of Mexico; Teresa Lehmann, native and former inhabitant of Venezuela.

Your Honor, each of these individuals has been interviewed under oath by a designated examiner for the United States Citizenship & Immigration Services. Immigration Services indicates that each of these individuals has met all the requirements for naturalization and are well qualified for citizenship.

As a fellow citizen of the United States, I congratulate you and welcome you on your citizenship today and this very important and special occasion.

At this time, Judge, I would move the aforementioned Petitioners be granted United States citizenship on taking of their oath.

JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: Thank you, Mr. Martin.

I would ask my colleagues to stand and join me with the newly naturalized citizens to administer the oath.

Please raise your right hand -- and for the audience, I believe the oath is printed on the back side of the program, if you wish to follow along.

I, state your name, hereby declare, on oath, that I absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince or potentate, state or sovereignty, of whom or which I have heretofore been a subject or citizen; that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and laws of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and

allegiance to the same; that I will bear arms on behalf of the United States when required by the law; that I will perform noncombatant service in the armed forces of the United States when required by the law; that I will perform work of national importance, under civil direction, when required by the law; and that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion, so help me God.

Congratulations. Let's all welcome our new citizens.

(Applause.)

JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: I would invite all to stand to join our new citizens in the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: And while we remain standing, we're pleased to have the Cheyenne Chamber Singers perform the Star-Spangled Banner.

(Star-Spangled Banner performed.)

JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: And we are happy to have our President's message. Please direct your attention to the monitors.

(President's message played.)

JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: Now we're pleased to have a dear friend of mine, Justice Lynn Boomgaarden, address our new citizens.

For a little background, she's no stranger to any of the judges here. Justice Boomgaarden was appointed to the

Wyoming Supreme Court by Governor Matt Meade, beginning her service on that court in February of this year.

Before her appointment, Justice Boomgaarden was a partner with the Crowley Fleck Law Firm in Cheyenne, Wyoming. She has extensive legal experience, having enjoyed a long and distinguished career in the practice of law, including a career law clerk for a Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals judge, now Senior Judge Wade Brorby. She was Assistant Professor of Law at the University of Wyoming College of Law, and she was the Director of the Wyoming Office of State Lands & Investments from 2003 to 2010.

Back in the day, during law school, she was the editor-in-chief of the Law Review. She's admitted to the Order of the Coif and ranked at the top of her law school class at the University of Wyoming.

Please join me in welcoming Justice Boomgaarden.

(Applause.)

JUSTICE BOOMGAARDEN: May it please the Court, Chief Judge Freudenthal, fellow judges, family, friends, distinguished guests and, most importantly, our new American citizens.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate today. I get quite a few opportunities to speak and, honestly, this one has excited me more than any other. I've never even been able to attend a naturalization ceremony, so I told my husband, my

children, my grandchildren -- everybody knows where I am this morning.

So it is with the greatest sincerity that I tell you it is my distinct honor and pleasure to be here with all of you, but especially in the company of my new fellow citizens and those who helped them get where they are today. It is also uplifting to be able to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to you and listen to the Cheyenne, Wyoming Chamber Singers' beautiful performance of the Star-Spangled Banner. I still get goosebumps every time.

It is also going to be great to hear from our delegations and our patriotic organizations. These are people who provide such valuable services to new and existing citizens alike, and it is an extraordinary occasion today not just for all of you, the new citizens, family and friends, but for all of us, because the message I hope to convey to you this morning is that your becoming United States citizen is a defining moment for each of your home communities, for our great state of Wyoming, and for our beloved United States of America.

I'm certain that the reasons that each of you chose to become a United States citizen vary greatly, and I'm certain that each of your different reasons reflect your personal life story, your individual struggles and your individual accomplishments.

And the cultural perspectives that you represent today

also vary greatly. You have life experiences in 12 different countries, in multiple continents and island nations, only a few of which I've ever had the opportunity to visit. And the beauty of that diversity is it reflects the unique value that each one of you are going to bring and the unique contribution that each one of you are going to be able to bring to your home community, to our state and to this great nation.

There's one thing, however, that uniformly represents all of you and those that obtain citizenship before you and those that will follow in your footsteps. You all chose to become a United States citizen. That means that you, unlike the people that were born here, like myself, consciously promise to support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America. And by doing so, you deliberately embrace the ideal that in this country you're protected by and obligated to respect the rule of law.

Now, what do I mean by the rule of law? That's not an easy concept to define, as I'm sure you all figured that out as you went through your various studies. In essence, it is the framework of our government that separates the powers of the executive, the legislative and the judicial institutions to make sure that no one person, no one person is able to gain absolute power and stand above the law.

In the words of our recently retired United States Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy: It is the rule of law



that promotes freedoms, that promotes justice, that promotes equality. That's worth saying again: It is the rule of law that promotes freedom, that promotes justice, that promotes equality; A system of self-government based on fair, publicized, broadly understood and stable law, meaning that we enjoy a transparent system of making laws and that those laws are applied predictably and uniformly.

Equally important, it is a system in which all persons, including the government, including our government that are accountable under those laws because it is difficult to maintain a rule of law if the citizens don't respect the law.

Today I applaud each and every one of you for demonstrating your respect for the rule of law. You worked hard to be able to take the oath you took a few moments ago by committing to the long and difficult path to citizenship. You have shown an example -- you have set an example and shown respect for the rule of law, the foundation of our democracy.

Now I challenge you to go out and share your knowledge, your perspective, your culture and your beliefs, and to express your appreciation and your reservations about our laws and policies, and you need to do that in each of your communities. Having taken the oath of citizenship, you must now seek out opportunities to engage in civil discourse about important issues involving freedom, justice and equality.

Through your actions and words be an example, not just to fellow immigrants, not just to your family and friends, but to all those who were born here and those who were not. Never, never underestimate the impact that you will have.

And I wanted to share with you this morning just a couple of examples. On the first Tuesday of November -- I live out in the country between Cheyenne and Laramie, and my polling place where I go to vote is an elementary school, a little country school. And that morning before I came in to work, I went to vote for our general election.

And as I was walking in, they had the gymnasium in the school set up for the voters, so voters go through one door and all the children, parents and teachers were going through another door in the school. As I was walking up to the school getting ready to go into the gymnasium to vote, there was a gentleman -- I didn't know if he was a teacher, a custodian, if he was the principal. I don't know him, but he was standing out in front where I thought he would be welcoming parents and students into the school that morning.

And I was really frustrated and saddened when, instead of hearing him just welcome students, I heard him complaining. He was complaining about the fact that the school had to put up with voting that day. I frankly was a little bit miffed. And, you know, I made a call to a friend of the school district and said, "I don't understand. I mean, I appreciate that it was

inconvenient and their gymnasium was taken and their parking lot was more full than usual, but this was an important day. It was voting day. It was our general election, and you have parents coming in and you have students coming in. And instead of explaining to the people that are coming in, "Hey, I'm sorry if you had to park a little farther away, but, you know, we're really privileged, we're honored to be a polling place and all these people coming in and entering our gymnasium are exercising their right to vote."

I don't think that individual intended to discourage people from voting or to disrespect voting, but I was troubled because what I think he demonstrated was just this casual disregard for the importance of the right to vote that we enjoy in this country and that you, becoming citizens today, are going to be able to enjoy.

And honestly I wish that I could have arranged for each and every one of you to talk to that individual so that that individual could witness your enthusiasm and appreciation for the freedoms that we have in these United States.

My second example is sitting here today. You know more about United States history and government than many, if not most, American adults. Just this last October a survey was published by the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation that showed that only 36 percent of American adults would pass a basic multiple choice U.S. citizenship test that was modeled

after the test that you all had to take on your road to today's ceremony. That's a sad and unfortunate fact.

So what's the take-away from these examples? The take-away is that opportunities abound for each and every one of you to make a difference. I'm confident that you will find those opportunities to share your knowledge and perspective. I'm also confident that people will benefit from your willingness to share and that each of you will learn and grow with each of those opportunities and challenges.

In closing, I ask not just each of you, but all of us to commit to living the oath of citizenship that you took here this morning. And how do we do that? Well, we support the Constitution and laws of the United States of America. You do that by exercising your right to vote each and every opportunity that you have, and, in your own way, meaningfully participate in local, state and federal government.

At the very least, to participate you need to stay informed, attend meetings, volunteer for boards and commissions, local, state, national level. There's so many different opportunities to get involved. And maybe even run for office some day.

It is by that example, it is by all of us living the oath that you took today, that we will overcome hatred, bias and intolerance and reflect the ideals of freedom, justice and equality that are represented by that flag that hangs in every

courtroom and in every capitol in these great United States of America.

Congratulations to you, my fellow Americans.  
Godspeed.

(Applause.)

JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: Thank you, Justice.

All right. I think we're to the point of the -- truly moving point of the ceremony of having the certificates, the paper, the tangible evidence of citizenship presented to each of our citizens. We have, in a wonderful way, a very full courtroom today. Normally we step down and are part of that certificate presentation process. I think, just because of some cramped quarters here, I'll ask the deputy clerk of court to present those.

But I would invite all of you after the ceremony comes to a conclusion to come over and, just speaking for myself, but I think I reflect for all of us here, we'd love to shake your hand and individually congratulate each of you.

Tammy, if you would present the certificates. Thank you.

We have presentations as well by patriotic organizations. We are honored and so appreciate the participation by our patriotic organizations. I would invite them to pass along their material. This consists of a number of items. And I think I may take a minute to just reflect,

really, on what all our new citizens are receiving. I think our citizens should have these important items representing citizenship as well.

We have the American flag presented by the Colonial Dames of the 17th Century. We have the American Flag Code presented by the Daughters of the American Revolution. We have the Star-Spangled Banner booklet presented by the American Legion 6 Auxiliary; the Citizens Almanac presented by the 1881 Auxiliary; the U.S. Constitution presented by the VFW 4343 Auxiliary.

And then after the presentation by the patriotic organizations, we're tickled to have representatives from our congressional delegation. Before we turn to them, so we don't again get too clogged up in our little jury box here at this side of the courtroom, I would invite representatives from our patriotic organizations to pass along those, again, the tangible indications of our history and heritage.

(Presentations.)

THE COURT: Thank you again. We are so grateful that you continue to participate and join us in these ceremonies.

At this time we have representatives from our congressional delegation: Representatives from Senator Mike Enzi, representatives from Senator John Barrasso, and representatives from our United States Representative, Liz Cheney.

(Presentations.)

JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: Thank you again. It is always a pleasure to have staff from our congressional delegation here and providing letters. I know they're heartfelt letters from our congressional delegation.

With that, we're back to the Cheyenne Chamber Singers for the song America The Beautiful.

(America The Beautiful performed.)

(Applause.)

JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: Thank you for joining us.

I'll turn first to Judge Rankin for a few remarks.

MAGISTRATE JUDGE RANKIN: Thank you, Judge Freudenthal.

Well, congratulations. You're all Americans. Welcome. I was noticing as you were receiving all of the stuff that we need to get you some kind of patriotic swag bags for all that stuff. That would be appropriate.

Justice Boomgaarden, thank you for your excellent remarks. These are really uplifting ceremonies for us. There are no losers. Everybody wins today. And I can see by the smiling faces from family and friends in the audience that this is indeed a very big and important day.

What a long road I'm sure it has been for all of you and your families. And I'm sure it has also been a struggle at times, leaving your homeland, saying good-bye to beloved

friends and family, traveling to this country, finding a job, adjusting to a new culture, really, a new way of life.

But the good news for us is -- all of us, the best of your culture and the way of life is really now the best of ours, and your traditions enrich not only your own families but they enrich America.

Always remember that this country was founded by the diversity of many tribes, countries, and cultures. We have been blessed by the rich culture and traditions of so many people like you and those that came before you. America is a combination of the best of everyone who comes here. This great country depends on new citizens such as you to learn and grow. Our survival depends on the values of diversity, tolerance, dignity and respect that we live by and teach each other.

Our very first president, George Washington, recognized the importance of immigrants to our land, not just the rich and high-ranking newcomer, quote, but the oppressed and persecuted of all nations and religions who we shall welcome to a participation in all our rights and privileges, end quote.

Being a United States citizen means also, of course, that you are free. The Constitution and laws of this country are designed to protect your freedom. You are free to think on your own and to form your own opinions, and you may voice those opinions, whether many people or few people agree with you.



You are free to work where you want to work, to read what you want to read, to say what you want to say and believe what you want to believe. There is no single American way to think or to believe. As a citizen of the United States, you are free to follow your own path, wherever it may lead you.

But, with that freedom comes responsibility. The freedom of democracy comes with the responsibility to participate in the democratic process, as Justice Boomgaarden noted, by vote, not casually or carelessly, but in a way that is thoughtful and informed. You have a responsibility to educate yourself so that you can make good choices for yourself, your family and this country that is now your country. This democracy so hard fought for only works when the people participate fully by helping to choose who will govern us all and by taking that process seriously.

Freedom of democracy also carries a responsibility to your community and to your country. You must be willing to serve this country as you can. Use your talents, be active in your community, give back to your community through civic service, participation and help.

I am sure all of you have someone whose help made it possible for you to be here today -- a friend, a family member, a teacher, a sponsor. Maybe they are here with you; maybe they are not. But as you celebrate your new citizenship, make sure you let that person or those persons know how much their help

has meant to you, and perhaps a wonderful way to honor them for their service is to reach out to somebody else that may need your help. Your new country, our country, will continue to thrive if we care about our fellow citizens as human beings.

Again, congratulations and welcome. You have worked incredibly hard to earn your citizenship, and I know I speak for all Wyoming citizens and neighbors when I say we are grateful to have you. Thank you.

(Applause.)

JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: Thank you, Judge Rankin.

Judge Johnson.

JUDGE JOHNSON: Well, what an honor to be here today, Chief, to speak to our new citizens. And I want to thank Justice Boomgaarden for her marvelous presentation this morning and to congratulate our new citizens who have taken the oath to join us as citizens.

These ceremonies really create a terrific reminder to me and to everyone who is present of the responsibilities that we all have as citizens, whether we're born in the United States or whether we've decided to take the oath and become citizens of this great nation.

And I always think how important and how unique our oath is in not celebrating the status of a dictator or a king or a queen or some other figures, even a president or a senator or a congressman. This ceremony asks us to support the laws of

the United States and the Constitution that has been enacted and that protects the rights of each and every individual citizen.

So, congratulations to each of you. Your sacrifices and effort that have brought you to this courtroom certainly are greatly respected and appreciated by me. Appreciation and recognition as well is deserved for families and friends who have supported your decision to become a citizen.

Having taken the oath of allegiance serves today to bind you and connect you to this generous and caring nation and the values that we share of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Each of you are, indeed, part of a special group. You've been part of the 13,500,000 lawful permanent residents of the United States of America, including students studying at America's colleges and universities, persons who have found asylum in the United States, and the millions who have come here seeking employment and who have been issued green cards.

You are now part of a much, much smaller, very special group who have completed all of the requirements necessary to achieve the status of citizen and have now taken the final step at this ceremony of celebration and oath-taking.

Thank you for your patience and your perseverance. Your presence here today is and will be a life-changing event for you and your family members and friends. By the oath freely taken today, prior allegiances to other places and

governments have been set aside. In time of conflict or need, the duty of the citizen will henceforward be to serve the United States of America. The status of being an American means each citizen has the duty to support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the laws that provide the rules of our government and serve to guarantee our rights.

In order to effectively participate as a citizen, we share a duty to inform ourselves of the issues affecting our lives and our communities and to participate in our government by voting and even seeking public office.

As human beings, we are prone to make mistakes. However, in America relations with one another, tolerance and respect for racial, ethnic and cultural difference should always be the standard. America has been built by many different peoples working and living as one.

Americans are called upon to pay taxes, state and federal, and to honestly report their income. They respond and serve when called to jury duty, and I hope that each of you have that opportunity to become more acquainted with what goes on in the courts of the United States of America.

Giving meaning each day to the oath of citizenship that you have taken and the Pledge of Allegiance, in America we have the freedom to express ourselves to write, speak and read what our minds conceive. The citizen is free to worship and express his or her religious spirituality.

The courtrooms of America are places where persons accused of violating the criminal laws will be heard by juries composed of fellow citizens.

Each citizen votes in federal, state and local elections and expresses himself or herself in an informed manner, guiding their precious vote. You may seek federal employment, run for public office, serve your fellow citizens. The opportunities we receive from our citizenship allows each of us equal opportunity to educate children, to prepare for and seek meaningful occupations, free expression of opinions and worship of personal religion.

A respected judge once spoke at a naturalization ceremony many years ago and defined the obligation that each citizen shares with a duty to protect it. Liberty means more than unbridled will and its existence should not be solely dependent upon constitution, law or courts. The spirit of liberty rests within the heart of each of us in performing the duties we have as citizens and to care for and consider and respect the unique characteristics of our fellow citizens.

This -- if this path is the path that we follow, happiness, the pleasure of our friends, the successes of our families, the love for this nation and its promise will be our shared destiny.

Best wishes to each of you, and may the years ahead be filled with worthy accomplishments and successes for you and

your families.

(Applause.)

JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: Thank you, Judge Johnson.

I, too, would like to focus at least the first part of my comments on this oath. When you think about an oath, you should reflect how many times you've actually taken an oath. Very few people have taken oaths, and the ones who have, it is just a few times in their life.

An oath isn't a pledge. It is not a promise. It is something more. It is not a vow. And we all hold these things dearly -- our vows of marriage, our pledge to the flag, our promises to friends and family. They are cherished. But an oath is, in my view, the next level up.

Oaths are what our servicemen take when they go into combat and join the armed forces. Oaths are taken by judges and justices when they assume their positions. And you are a select few who have taken an oath. You have taken that oath without any mental reservation. You are not thinking, well, you know, can I have a do-over here? There's no mental reservation. You haven't taken the oath for any purpose of evasion. And you've done so freely and voluntarily and well informed, knowing what you've had to go through for the -- in the immigration and naturalization process.

And the first part of that oath is the whole part of renouncing and abjuring the allegiance and fidelity to foreign

princes, potentates, states or sovereignties. So, first, in taking the oath, you think you have to renounce -- just feel how would it feel if someone came up to you and said, "I renounce you." I mean, that's what we're asking our citizens to do on oath is renounce and abjure their allegiance, their support for a prince or potentate.

That doesn't mean renouncing or giving up the love and culture you have, the traditions, the language. Those enrich us. But you first, before you can take that next step to promise or through oath pledge allegiance to the United States, you have to turn your back on -- I mean, you think of these mental images -- these are almost biblical words -- turning your back on, setting down and setting away the allegiance you feel to these foreign countries and holding your heritage still in your heart to pass on to your family and friends.

And then the next step is the oath to this country and to the laws, to the rule of law, and to the Constitution.

So we can't get there before the renouncing and abjuring, and now we're to the oath to support and defend the Constitution of the -- and the laws. You know, occasionally I sit up here when I have to sentence people and I think, wow, these laws are overly harsh. But, you know, I took an oath to support and defend those laws, and if I have issues, there's a process.

The doors to our delegation are open, and goodness

knows some of them have heard my views about some of the laws. But to the extent that they've gone through that process, and they have, they have been lawfully enacted, my job is, as yours is, to support and defend the Constitution and laws and bear true faith and allegiance until they're changed through, again, another lawful process.

And then we get to the duties. It is not all about allegiance. It is about, then, an oath to serve: To serve as a combatant, as a warrior, if required by law; to serve in noncombatant service when required by law in the armed forces. And again, what are the images? The images are Guardsmen fighting fires in California or taking water to victims of floods.

And then you arrive at other duties: Performing work of national importance under civil direction. To me the first thing that pops into my head is jury service, and we've heard about that, being ready to perform that work of national importance. And over the course of our history we've had other civil work required by law that we ask of our citizens.

So this oath is not words, as Judge Johnson indicated. They don't exist on this piece of paper or on the back of the program, really. They exist in our hearts. They exist because this is your oath. And whether as natural born citizens or naturalized citizens, this oath, whether expressed in open court or inherited by birth, is something that we must carry in



our heart or it really is of no consequence.

So congratulations, and thank you for freely and without any mental reservation stepping up and taking these important and difficult steps to first turn your back on your other states, sovereignties and princes and stepping up to support and defend and then embracing these duties.

And this really brings you to the culture of this wonderfully diverse nation. We all love -- whether we -- unless we're descended from Native Americans, we all have a history somewhere in the past of forefathers and mothers coming to this country by choice for the opportunities and for the culture and for the love and support that this country provides.

And with that, we have the, again, duty to respect and learn the traditions of this country which includes the traditions of this melting pot. Some people -- I think Justice Sotomayor refers to it as a mixed salad as opposed to a melting pot of diverse people who have chosen our country as fellow Americans. And we have the obligation to respect and protect and defend the rights of all of our citizens because they are all -- they all have equal rights, as Justice Brandeis addressed. Because if we are reluctant to support and defend the rights of our fellow citizens, we damage our own rights and the rights of our loved ones.

I usually end by talking about Felix Frankfurter who

served as a Justice on the United States Supreme Court. He came here when he was 12 years old and he, too, became a naturalized citizen. And having achieved the highest office in the courts of this country, Justice Frankfurter said in this country the highest office is citizen. You have now assumed that high office with all of its privileges and duties.

We have all spoken about what those duties are, including paying taxes, serving on juries. It comes with rights and duties, and I think it is a fair bargain.

I hope that you spend some part of today welcoming the individuals who are with you in the jury box. We have 15 people here from 11 different countries. These are people that have been on that path with you who are here along with their families and friends to celebrate you as new citizens. Welcome.

And I hope that each of you work as hard going forward as you have in the past to get here to help us all make this great country the country that you hoped to find when you got here and that you want for your children when you leave.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: With that I want to remind everyone that you're all invited for refreshments in the jury assembly room where we can, again, congratulate the citizens. If any of you and your family would like to stay behind for

photos, we are here. The flag is here. It is a great photo opportunity. Please join us. This morning is dedicated to you.

Thank you. We will stand adjourned.

(Proceedings concluded 11:04 a.m., December 3, 2018.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, JANET DAVIS, Federal Official Court Reporter for the United States District Court for the District of Wyoming, a Registered Diplomate Reporter, Federal Certified Realtime Reporter, and Certified Realtime Reporter, do hereby certify that I reported by machine shorthand the foregoing 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 31st day of December, 2018.

*Janet Davis*

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JANET DAVIS, RDR, FCRR, CRR  
Federal Official Court Reporter