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**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:

Casper, Wyoming  
January 12, 2026  
3:35 p.m.

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MARIE CHARMAINE SORIANO PULLUM,  
AMNA KHAN, AUROOJ KHAN, REGINA  
ELIZABETH HASPERHOVEN, RAQUEL  
ALEJANDRO ROXAS, VICTORIA JUDITH LUNA,  
MAURO GABRIEL ZAMUDIO, MARIA GABRIELA  
ESPINOZA, ANKIT SAXENA, CHRISTOPH  
GEISLER, AMY GABRIELA TORRES BARAJAS,  
NHUNG THI HONG THOMSON, XUEYING WU,  
BRIANDA RODRIGUEZ, JUHVY PINDOT MOWREY,  
MARIA LEAH NIMFA IMPERIAL LIEBERMANN,  
ELENA GARTNER,

Ewing T. Kerr  
Federal Courthouse

Petitioners.

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

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**BEFORE THE HONORABLE SCOTT W. SKAVDAHL**  
**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGE**

19

**APPEARANCES:**

20  
21

For the Government: CHRISTYNE MARTENS  
United States Attorney's Office  
100 East B Street, Suite 2211  
Casper, Wyoming 82601

22  
23

SHANNON L. ZELT, RPR, FOCR  
111 South Wolcott Street, Casper WY 82601  
307.232.2626 \* shannon\_zelt@wyd.uscourts.gov

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*Proceedings reported by stenotype reporter.*  
*Transcript produced by Computer-Aided Transcription.*

1 (Proceedings commenced at 3:35 p.m., January 12, 2026.)

2 THE COURT: Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen, and  
3 welcome to the Ewing T. Kerr Federal Courthouse for this rap  
4 session. Forgive me.

5 The Court will suspend all local rules on cameras and  
6 recording devices. I would ask, however, if you have a  
7 cellphone, if you can put it on silent for your ringer.

8 It is a tradition at the beginning of these  
9 naturalization ceremonies to recognize those citizens and  
10 families of those citizens who have paid the ultimate price in  
11 defending what so many in this world seek, the freedoms and  
12 benefits of becoming and being a United States citizen.

13 As of this morning 7,094 American men and women have  
14 been killed in action while involved in military operations in  
15 the middle east. In addition 53,562 United States military  
16 personnel have been wounded in action during those same  
17 military operations.

18 Let us take a moment of silence and recognize these  
19 American heroes and their families whose sacrifice cannot be  
20 measured and loss never recovered.

21 (Moment of silence.)

22 THE COURT: Thank you.

23 The United States District Court for the District of  
24 Wyoming is in special session for the naturalization of  
25 foreign nationals to become United States citizens. It is

1 with great honor, pride, and privilege that I am able to  
2 conduct today's ceremonies naturalizing 18 new U.S. citizens  
3 from 11 different countries from around the world.

4 The federal district court of Wyoming, including  
5 Chief Judge Rankin, Judges Johnson, Freudenthal, Klosterman,  
6 and Hambrick extend their congratulations to you and your  
7 family and friends.

8 At this time I would ask U.S. Immigration and  
9 Naturalization Service to call the role of prospective  
10 applicants for U.S. citizenship.

11 And thank you, Ms. Murray, for being with us today.  
12 If you can, make sure that microphone is on.

13 MS. MURRAY: Thank you, Your Honor. I will read the  
14 names.

15 We have Marie Charmaine Soriano Pullum.

16 THE COURT: If you could, go ahead and stand when  
17 your name is called.

18 MS. MURRAY: Amna Khan, Aurooj Khan, Regina Elizabeth  
19 Hasperhoven, Raquel Alejandro Roxas; Victoria Judith Luna,  
20 Mauro Gabriel Zamudio, Maria Gabriela Shirek Espinoza,  
21 Ankit Saxena, Christoph Geisler, Amy Gabriela Torres Barajas,  
22 Nhung Thi Hong Thomson, Xueying Wu, Brianda Rodriguez, Juhvy  
23 Pindot Mowrey, Maria Leah Nimfa Imperial Liebermann, and  
24 Elena Gartner.

25 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. We've got

1 everybody on the list.

2 You can have a seat.

3 One of the most fundamental acts we do as citizens is  
4 pledge our allegiance to the flag of the United States. And  
5 at this time --

6 First, I would thank the ROTC for Natrona County and  
7 Lieutenant Colonel Johnson and the cadets Mason Duke, Danika  
8 Boston, and Wyatt Hard. Thank you for being here today.

9 And I would ask one of the children of our soon to be  
10 newest U.S. citizen, Isabella, if you would come forward --  
11 oh, you're already here -- and her friend Amelia are going to  
12 lead us in the pledge of allegiance.

13 And if you could all raise and remain standing for  
14 the "Star-Spangled Banner."

15 (Reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.)

16 THE COURT: Thank you very much.

17 At this time I would ask that "The Star-Spangled  
18 Banner" is played.

19 And we'll take one moment because Mariah has to run  
20 from one place to another.

21 I would sing it, ladies and gentlemen, but you would  
22 not be happy with me.

23 MS. MURRAY: We may have a volunteer. Somebody wants  
24 to sing.

25 THE COURT: All right. Ladies, if you would, come

1 forward. Pull the microphone that way.

2 (Singing of "The Star-Spangled Banner.")

3 (Applause.)

4 THE COURT: Well done. Thank you very much.

5 You may have a seat.

6 At this time I would ask that the President's video  
7 be played.

8 (Playing message from the President of the United States.)

9 THE COURT: Thank you.

10 At this time I would recognize Ms. Christyne Martens  
11 on behalf of the U.S. Attorney's Office for her petition.

12 MS. MARTENS: Thank you, Your Honor.

13 And may it please the Court.

14 THE COURT: Counsel.

15 MS. MARTENS: Before the Court today are individuals  
16 here for a hearing on their petition for naturalization. Each  
17 of these prospective citizens has successfully completed all  
18 of the steps necessary for eligibility for United States  
19 citizenship. In addition, the U.S. Citizenship and  
20 Immigration Service has completed its processes with respect  
21 to each of these individuals, including the necessary  
22 background investigation.

23 Having successfully negotiated all of these hurdles,  
24 we are advised that each of them is well qualified to be  
25 admitted for citizenship; therefore, on behalf of the

1 United States, I hereby move this Court to admit each of these  
2 individuals to United States citizenship upon their taking of  
3 the required oath.

4 Thank you.

5 THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Martens.

6 On the petition of the United States, the Court finds  
7 that each of these applicants identified has satisfied the  
8 legal requirements to be become citizens of the United States,  
9 and I will, therefore, grant the petition and enter an order  
10 allowing these petitioners to become citizens of the United  
11 States of America subject to the taking of their oath.

12 And, at this time, I would ask our soon to be newest  
13 United States citizens if you would please stand and raise  
14 your right hand and face me.

15 Anyone who wants to take a picture, you're free to  
16 relocate if you wish.

17 I, state your name --

18 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS: I, (stating names) --

19 THE COURT: -- hereby declare on oath --

20 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS: -- hereby declare on oath --

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

22 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS: -- that I absolutely and  
23 entirely --

24 THE COURT: -- renounce and abjure --

25 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS: -- renounce and abjure --

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

2 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS: -- all allegiance and  
3 fidelity --

4 THE COURT: -- to any foreign prince, potentate --

5 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS: -- to any foreign prince,  
6 potentate --

7 THE COURT: -- state, or sovereignty --

8 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS: -- state, or sovereignty --

9 THE COURT: -- of whom or which --

10 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS: -- of whom or which --

11 THE COURT: -- I have heretofore been --

12 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS: -- I have heretofore been --

13 THE COURT: -- a subject or citizen --

14 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS: -- a subject or citizen --

15 THE COURT: -- that I will support and defend --

16 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS: -- that I will support and  
17 defend --

18 THE COURT: -- the Constitution and laws --

19 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS: -- the Constitution and  
20 laws --

21 THE COURT: -- of the United States of America --

22 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS: -- of the United States of  
23 America --

24 THE COURT: -- against all enemies --

25 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS: -- against all enemies --

1 THE COURT: -- foreign and domestic --

2 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS: -- foreign and domestic --

3 THE COURT: -- that I will bear true faith --

4 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS: -- that I will bear true

5 faith --

6 THE COURT: -- and allegiance to the same --

7 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS: -- and allegiance to the

8 same --

9 THE COURT: -- that I will bear arms --

10 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS: -- that I will bear arms --

11 THE COURT: -- on behalf of the United States --

12 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS: -- on behalf of the United

13 States --

14 THE COURT: -- when required by law --

15 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS: -- when required by law --

16 THE COURT: -- I take this obligation freely --

17 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS: -- I take this obligation

18 freely --

19 THE COURT: -- without any mental reservation --

20 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS: -- without any mental

21 reservation --

22 THE COURT: -- or purpose of evasion --

23 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS: -- or purpose of evasion --

24 THE COURT: -- so help me God.

25 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS: -- so help me God.

1 THE COURT: Congratulations.

2 (Applause.)

3 THE COURT: You can have a seat, and we'll hand out  
4 the certificates as well as a flag.

5 (Presentation of certificates and flags.)

6 THE COURT: As part of these ceremonies, we're  
7 privileged to have some of the heroes, legends, and patriots,  
8 or daughters of patriots that have served this country and  
9 given us the freedoms that we enjoy. And I would, at this  
10 time, recognize those organizations.

11 And let me start with the Daughters of the American  
12 Revolution, and I believe that they have a presentation that  
13 they wish to make at this time.

14 MS. ROWE: Thank you, Your Honor.

15 Congratulations my fellow Americans. My name is  
16 Kristen Rowe. And as he said, I'm a member or the Fort Caspar  
17 Chapter, National Society, Daughters of the American  
18 Revolution. We're a women's service organization focusing on  
19 historic preservation, education, and patriotism. We all are  
20 descendents of American patriots.

21 My ancestors fought for that right for me. I've been  
22 given freedoms and opportunities others can only dream of.  
23 This is something in which I take great pride. Each of you  
24 have had a unique journey getting here, none of which were  
25 easy, I am sure. Whether you came by boat, plane, bus, or

1 foot, you took the necessary steps to get here and join us as  
2 citizens today. You have surpassed the many difficult  
3 adjustments that come with moving to a new country and fought  
4 hard to become an American just like me and my DAR sisters. I  
5 commend you on your hard work and dedication to achieve this  
6 status.

7 I would like to welcome you all on behalf of myself  
8 and the Fort Caspar Chapter DAR as our newest countrymen. We  
9 ask only that you love America, cherish her, honor her, and  
10 protect her, and embrace all the possibilities that you are  
11 given. May God bless each and every one of you on your newest  
12 journey.

13 Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 THE COURT: Thank you.

16 And thank you, Ms. Rowe and other ladies, for lending  
17 your voice to our "Star-Spangled Banner."

18 I also would recognize Ms. Haines on behalf of the  
19 Wyoming State Society of Daughters of 1812.

20 MS. HAINES: Thank you, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Thank you.

22 MS. HAINES: On behalf of the Wyoming members of the  
23 United States Daughters of the War of 1812, I am delighted to  
24 participate in your ceremony of naturalization today. The War  
25 of 1812 was a continuation, of sorts, of the Revolutionary War

1 to guarantee that the conditions agreed upon at the end of the  
2 Revolutionary War were honored. Many revolutionary war  
3 patriots also fought in the War of 1812 as did their sons and  
4 even some of their daughters.

5 Similar to the daughters of the American Revolution  
6 who just spoke to you, our members are descendents of those  
7 patriots of the War of 1812 who continued the fight to  
8 preserve the freedoms of the United States.

9 It is my sincerest honor to say to you today, welcome  
10 as a citizen of our beautiful United States of America.

11 Thank you.

12 (Applause.)

13 THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Haines.

14 At this time I would recognize various members of the  
15 American Legion and Disabled American Veterans; Mr. Seems,  
16 commander, Mr. Wizenried, Mr. Welch, Mr. Blackford, and also  
17 Mr. Williams.

18 Thank you, gentlemen.

19 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Your Honor, for this  
20 privilege and honor. The American Legion is a special group  
21 to us and he -- Commander Dean is going to tell you about 'em.

22 Please, Commander.

23 MR. WELCH: Okay. The American Legion was  
24 established in 1919. The charter for Casper was in 1919, so  
25 we've been around for over 106 years. We're the largest

1 veterans organization in the world. We have posts around the  
2 world, and it was established to help take care of our  
3 veterans once they came back from war because, at the very  
4 beginning of World War I, they came home, no jobs, no support,  
5 no benefits. And over the years we've been able to change  
6 that.

7 We're very -- very much want to congratulate you all  
8 on becoming citizens. And the thing the Veterans ask is that  
9 you be the citizens that we are proud to defend.

10 Thank you.

11 THE COURT: Thank you.

12 (Applause.)

13 MR. WILLIAMS: Disabled American Veterans, the DAV,  
14 these men and woman at sometime in their career with military,  
15 your military, have been injured or hurt in some way that they  
16 gave them a disability, but they continue to serve our country  
17 every day. And I'm a -- proud to be a former commander of the  
18 DAV and also a spokesman for our folks with the National  
19 Council.

20 The National Council is very dear to my heart. We  
21 are the ones who take care of our final wish, and that's to  
22 bury our comrades. We take care of the funerals. Doesn't  
23 matter if it's cold, hot, wet; we're there. And we will do it  
24 on your behalf.

25 I want to say one more thing to you that is hard to

1 understand, but the oath you took is similar to the one that  
2 His Honor took. It's similar to the one that the President of  
3 the United States took, our commander in chief, and similar to  
4 the one we took. Except ours has one more addition to it: We  
5 promise to give our life to you, to this country, if needed.

6 God Bless you, and we wish you strength and happiness  
7 as our new citizens. And thank you so much.

8 That envelope is correct?

9 PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS:

10 MS. HASPERHOVEN: Yes.

11 MR. WILLIAMS: Merci beaucoup, madame.

12 Thank you. Thank you very much.

13 (Applause.)

14 (Distribution of material from the United Veterans Council  
15 of Natrona County.)

16 MR. WILLIAMS: VFW is special people. They're  
17 veterans of foreign wars, which means they had what we call  
18 boots on ground. They left this country. They left their  
19 homes. They left their families to go to a foreign land not  
20 knowing if they're going to be coming back. We are so proud  
21 of these young men and women.

22 And it's Mr. Larry here -- oh, Ernie. Ernie. Ernie  
23 had a special job, a very hazardous job, and I like to tell  
24 everybody about it. He served as a mariner. That means he  
25 was in a submarine. And he had the toughest job of everybody

1 and that was keeping the windows clean.

2 Ernie, please.

3 (Distribution of pins from the VFW.)

4 THE COURT: Let me verify, while those pins are being  
5 handed out, do we have anyone here from the Natrona County  
6 4-H?

7 MR. WILLIAMS: Pardon me, sir?

8 THE COURT: Natrona County 4-H, I wanted to make sure  
9 we didn't. I don't see anyone here.

10 And the Small Business Administration?

11 Okay. I didn't want to overlook anyone.

12 MR. WILLIAMS: Your Honor, again, thank you so much  
13 for this privilege and honor being here. It's a beautiful day  
14 for all of us. Thank you, sir.

15 THE COURT: Thank you. Yes.

16 And thank you for what you and your forefathers have  
17 sacrificed as well as the men and women of the armed service.

18 Ladies and gentlemen, the next people I'm going to  
19 introduce you to are those who work for those you hire. They  
20 are your elected representatives. Senator Barrasso and his  
21 office, Kiefer McLemore and Thomas Walters are here today.  
22 Senator Lummus, Ms. Garner. And on behalf of congresswoman  
23 Hageman we have Emma Pehringer -- I'm going to get it right  
24 one of these days -- Ms. Scaling -- there she is -- and  
25 Ms. Hedges.

1           And they have some documentation they want to handout  
2 to you. And when you don't like the way things are going,  
3 those are the numbers and people you talk to. All right.

4           Thank you.

5           (Presentation of letters by the Wyoming Congressional  
6 Delegation.)

7           THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, one of the neater  
8 things that we do, in addition to obviously having you sworn  
9 in as new citizens, is give you a chance to introduce yourself  
10 and anyone that's here with you today. And tell us one thing  
11 about today that -- that is monumental or important to you.

12           And I would start with Marie. And don't -- you don't  
13 have to be a public speaker. Just -- just if anyone is here,  
14 anything you want to note.

15           MS. PULLUM: I just want to say thank you, specially  
16 to the veterans and everybody who's here, for giving me this  
17 opportunity to be part of the United States of America. So  
18 I'm -- I can't -- I'm looking forward to vote and sit in the  
19 jury one day.

20           Thank you.

21           THE COURT: Very good. Thank you.

22           MS. AMNA KHAN: I want to say the same thing. Thank  
23 you for letting me be part of the family here. Thank you.

24           THE COURT: Thank you for wanting to be.

25           MS. AUROOJ KHAN: Thank you for, like, letting us be

1 U.S. citizens. And it's always nice to learn about, like, the  
2 freedom that we get as citizens, and I'd love to be -- keep,  
3 like, doing my best as a citizen.

4 THE COURT: Thank you. Congratulations.

5 MS. HASPERHOVEN: I'm Regina Hasperhoven, and I'm  
6 very thankful to everybody here to have made this possible and  
7 all the people who have worked on this process before we got  
8 here. I'm very much looking forward to voting.

9 THE COURT: Good for you. Thank you.  
10 Congratulations.

11 MS. ROXAS: Thank you everybody for coming here,  
12 especially to our veterans and my friends and family here in  
13 United States. And I'm very thankful I'm in a free country  
14 and fulfill the American dream.

15 Thank you so much.

16 THE COURT: Congratulations. Thank you.

17 MS. LUNA: I just want to say thank you everyone and  
18 for my family help me in this journey.

19 Thank you.

20 THE COURT: Congratulations.

21 MR. ZAMUDIO: I just want to say thank you to  
22 everybody for all the support, especially my family, for  
23 everybody to give this opportunity to become an American  
24 citizen.

25 Thank you.

1 THE COURT: Congratulations. Thank you.

2 THE WITNESS: My name is Maria Gabriela Shirek  
3 Espinoza, and I'm here with my husband and my baby girl. And  
4 I'm really, really glad that I get to have the same last name  
5 as they do now. That's huge.

6 THE COURT: Congratulations.

7 MR. SAXENA: Hi. My name Ankit Saxena. I'm just  
8 really grateful for the ceremony. It was beautiful. I  
9 appreciate all the rights and freedoms that come with the  
10 citizenship that I have right now, and I also appreciate that  
11 I'll get many long years of opportunity to chase elk in the  
12 beautiful mountains of Wyoming.

13 THE COURT: Here, here. Congratulations.

14 MR. GEISLER: Hi. My name is Christoph. I came here  
15 at -- 21 years ago for a Ph.D., which I completed. That was a  
16 nonimmigrant visa. Obviously, I stuck around. I've met my  
17 wife here. I've got two beautiful kids. And looking forward  
18 to spending many more years here.

19 THE COURT: Congratulations.

20 MS. TORRES: My name is Amy Torres, and I never would  
21 have believed that this dream -- this dream would come true.  
22 I just want to thank everybody that's here, my whole family  
23 for being so supportive and being here for me and everyone  
24 that's in this room too.

25 Thank you.

1 THE COURT: Congratulations.

2 MS. THOMSON: I am Nhung Thomson. I'm a little  
3 nervous right now. Yeah, I am so thankful for everyone to let  
4 me can call here is the second country is call home.

5 So thank you very much you welcome me.

6 THE COURT: Congratulations. Thank you.

7 MS. WU: Hi everyone. My name is called Xueying Wu.  
8 I am so glad to be a part of the United States citizen.

9 Thank you.

10 THE COURT: Thank you. Congratulations.

11 MS. RODRIGUEZ: My name is Brianda Rodriguez. Thank  
12 you, the United State. I'm so happy.

13 And thank you to my husband and my two daughters.

14 Thank you.

15 THE COURT: Thank you. Congratulations.

16 MS. MOWREY: Good afternoon, everyone. I'm Juhvy  
17 Pindot Mowrey, and my heart is so full. Thank you so much,  
18 and it's been a dream to be part of this great country.

19 I thank my husband, John, and all the Mowrey clan  
20 that helped me. Thank you so much. I am so grateful.

21 And thank you very much, and God bless America.

22 THE COURT: Congratulations.

23 MS. LIEBERMANN: Good afternoon, everyone. My name  
24 is Maria Leah Nimfa Imperial Liebermann. This is actually a  
25 very emotional day for me. Almost a year ago I have given up

1 into becoming a U.S. citizen. I'm actually in the process of  
2 a divorce. I have a three-week old daughter, and now I'm  
3 officially a U.S. citizen. Thank you so much for everybody  
4 that's here and for making it possible.

5 And most especially thank you for my friends for  
6 being there for me.

7 THE COURT: Congratulations.

8 MS. GARTNER: Hello, everyone. My name is Elena. I  
9 came here 11 years ago, and today I'm so proud to be American  
10 and I so really appreciate it for my family and friends and  
11 for all of you to make this day so special for us.

12 Thank you.

13 THE COURT: Congratulations.

14 So out of -- just so visually I can get a idea of  
15 this and the rest of us can as well, if you all stand up, and  
16 those of you who were able to come here and get citizenship  
17 within five years, go ahead and sit down.

18 Those of you who were able to come here and get  
19 citizenship within 10 years have a seat.

20 Those of you who were able to come here and get  
21 citizenship within 15 years have a seat.

22 20? 25? 30? 35? 40?

23 Whether it was 5 or 40, the journey that you have  
24 taken has taken a lot of work; and we appreciate and  
25 congratulate you on completing that journey.

1           I would recognize Ms. Martens on behalf of the  
2 United States.

3           MS. MARTENS: Thank you, Judge.

4           Ladies and gentlemen, congratulations on behalf of  
5 the United States Attorney's Office. It is absolutely my  
6 pleasure to welcome you home. This has been a long journey  
7 for each of you, of varying lengths clearly, but I think today  
8 we can appreciate the effort that has gotten you here. And  
9 thank you for sharing your joy and your gratitude with all of  
10 us.

11           You are now solidly woven into the great tapestry of  
12 this nation, and we are stronger for it. You bring with you a  
13 wealth of beautiful experiences and knowledge that will only  
14 make us stronger as a country. Thank you for bringing that to  
15 us. And thank you for being willing to take on the  
16 responsibilities that go with citizenship.

17           I was born here so I didn't have to take that oath,  
18 but it makes me think about the day that I took the oath to be  
19 part of the United States Attorney's Office when I swore to  
20 protect and defend the Constitution and what that meant to me.  
21 And having come from a family with a long history of military  
22 service and my husband being a member of the VFW, as he served  
23 overseas in the Middle East, it had extra meaning to me that  
24 every day I would honor the sacrifice of so many people that I  
25 love and care about and honor my community by doing my very

1 best to show up and protect and defend the Constitution in  
2 this very courtroom.

3 So, ladies and gentlemen, thank you so very much for  
4 taking on similar duties as a citizen. I personally  
5 appreciate that. And, again, welcome home.

6 THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Martens.

7 Congratulations to you and your families and friends.  
8 The importance and significance and joy and relief of this day  
9 can't be overstated. Some of you have worked 5 and, we noted,  
10 up to 40 years to get to this point in your life. And like  
11 Ms. Martens noted, some of us were born with the gift of  
12 citizenship. You had to work for it.

13 And let us all hope that we all recognize the benefit  
14 and the value of that right to be a United States citizen. We  
15 also must recognize the obligation of a United States citizen.  
16 The obligation to vote, the obligation to sit in those seats,  
17 the obligation to listen and to choose carefully, to enrich  
18 our country, to enrich each other's lives with your culture,  
19 your background, your abilities, your education, your talents.  
20 We also must remember the sacrifices that have been made to  
21 give us the rights and the freedoms and the joys that we have.

22 And we must never forget that the United States  
23 Constitution provides for "We, the people." It's not we, the  
24 government. It's not we, the prince. It's not we, the  
25 potentate. It's not Putin. It's not some dictator. It is

1 we, the people, that govern this country. And the way we do  
2 that is by exercising our rights and collectively appreciating  
3 and respecting those of others.

4 To you, our newest citizens, I encourage you with  
5 your enthusiasm, skills, and talents to make our country more  
6 diverse and talented and enrich our democracy. Vote and  
7 exercise your rights and freedoms, but appreciate and respect  
8 divergent views and beliefs that make this country what it is.  
9 We must all appreciate how and why we enjoy the freedoms we  
10 do. It is not because we all think the same and believe the  
11 same, but rather because we respect each other's diversity and  
12 the freedom to have differing beliefs.

13 You are now part of us, that richly woven fabric of  
14 the United States of America. May we never forget the rights  
15 and freedoms we enjoy exist only because of those who forged  
16 this country, who believed in it and valued it more than their  
17 own self-interest. And may we always honor our commitment to  
18 each other above self, and may God continue to bless these  
19 United States of America.

20 Congratulations.

21 We'll stand in recess.

22 THE COURTROOM DEPUTY: All rise. Court stands in  
23 recess.

24 (Proceedings concluded at 4:19 p.m., January 12, 2026.)

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## C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Shannon L. Zelt, Federal Official Court Reporter for the United States District Court for the District of Wyoming, a Registered Professional Reporter, do hereby certify that I reported by realtime stenography the foregoing proceedings contained herein on the aforementioned subject on the date herein set forth and that the foregoing 22 pages constitute a full, true, and correct transcript.

Dated this 9th day of March, 2026.

*Shannon L. Zelt, RPR*

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**Shannon L. Zelt, RPR**  
**Federal Official Court Reporter**