1	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF WYOMING			
2	IN THE MATTER OF THE			
3	NATURALIZATION AND GRAN UNITED STATES CITIZENSH		Cheyenne, Wyoming July 8, 2013 1:30 p.m.	
4			1.50 p.m.	
5	LORENA GARCIA SO TIE TJENG		Joseph C. O'Mahoney Federal Courthouse	
6	SAMRAWIT FIKRU BELEW MARGARETA STEFANOVIC			
7	BONABE CALUZA VOSSLER BLANCA FLOR SUAREZ			
8	TRIPOLYN DIEZ JOHNSON LAMIA GOUAL			
9	PALKESHKUMAR BALDEVBHAI SUGATA PIKATAN TAN	CHAUDHARI		
10	MOHAMMAD PIRI			
11	EVELYN SARA GRACE MAGUIH TIBERIU POPA EUSTACIO RAMIREZ	ζ <u>Ε</u>		
12	BETTY ANNE WINDOM			
13	Petitioners.			
14	TRANSCRIPT	OF HEARING ON PETI	TIONS FOR	
15	UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP AND NATURALIZATION CEREMONY			
16	BEFORE THE HONORABLE NANCY D. FREUDENTHAL Chief United States District Judge, Presiding			
17	THE HONORABLE KELLY H. RANKIN Chief United States Magistrate Judge			
18				
19	APPEARANCES: For the UNITED STATES:	C. LEVI MARTIN Assistant United S	States Attorney	
20		UNITED STATES ATTO 2120 Capitol Avenu	ORNEY'S OFFICE	
21		P.O. Box 668 Cheyenne, WY 8200		
22	Court Reporter:	MRS. JANET DAVIS,		
23	L -	United States Cour 2120 Capitol Avenu	rt Reporter	
24		Cheyenne, Wyoming (307) 635-3884		
25	Proceedings recorded by produced with computer.		caphy, transcript	

(Proceedings commenced 1:30 p.m., July 8, 2013.)

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2 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: Welcome. We are hoping that 3 Judge Johnson will be able to join us. He's still in the 4 middle of a proceeding, but I told him to just come in late and 5 so he may arrive unceremoniously, but better late than never.

6 The first order of business, we will suspend the rule 7 against cameras and video recordings in the courtroom. Please 8 feel free to take photos and videos of any part of this event. 9 It is an important day for everybody involved, and we are happy 10 to be a part of it.

We're happy to welcome you. After a long 4th of July weekend where I'm still recovering from too much sugar and too much potato salad, it is a thrill to welcome all of the newly naturalized citizens to the larger American family. You're here with your family and friends, and we are -- we are up here representing the court, but also, as I said, the larger American family that welcomes you into citizenship.

18 The second order of business is to introduce the 19 judges today. We have Judge Kelly Rankin to my left, to your 20 right. He's our Chief Magistrate Judge here for the District 21 of Wyoming.

22 My name is Nancy Freudenthal, and hopefully we will 23 have Judge Alan Johnson joining.

Above you, above the jury box, is Senior Judge Clarence Brimmer. He's recently taken inactive senior status

and is spending the summer in Jackson. He always adds
 wonderful remarks at this ceremony, and I know he is sorry to
 be missing it today but is simply just too far away.

With that as a welcome, I will invite the Assistant U.S. Attorney Levi Martin to do the roll call of citizens to be naturalized.

7 MR. MARTIN: Thank you, Chief Judge Freudenthal and 8 Judge Rankin. Again my name is Levi Martin, and I'm here on 9 behalf of the United States Attorney's Office for the District 10 of Wyoming and in proxy for the United States Attorney General.

11 It is my privilege, Your Honor, to introduce to the Court the following individuals who appear in person today for 12 13 a hearing on their representative petitions for naturalization 14 as United States citizens. And in order beginning with the 15 back row, top left: Lorena Garcia, native and former 16 inhabitant of Mexico; So Tie Tjeng, native and former 17 inhabitant of Indonesia; Samrawit Fikru Belew, native and 18 former inhabitant of Ethiopia; Margareta Stefanovic, native of Serbia; Bonabe Caluza Vossler, native of the Philippines; 19 20 Blanca Flor Suarez, native of Mexico; Tripolyn Diez Johnson, 21 native of the Philippines.

And on the bottom left row we have Lamiz Goual, native of Algeria; Palkeshkumar Chaudhari, native of India; Sugta Pikatan Tan, native of Indonesia; Mohammad Piri, native of Iran; Evelyn Maguire, native of Canada; Tiberiu Popa, native of

Romania; Eustacio Ramirez, native of Mexico; and finally, Your
 Honor, Betty Anne Windom, native of Canada.

3 Each of these individuals have been interviewed and examined under oath by a designated examiner of the United 4 5 States Citizenship and Immigration Services who has, in turn, 6 completed the character and background investigation. Citizenship and Immigration Services indicates that each of 7 8 these individuals has met all requirements for naturalization 9 and is well qualified as a desirable candidate for United 10 States citizenship.

As a fellow U.S. citizen, I want to welcome and congratulate each of these petitioners on this very special occasion which just happens to fall, I guess, on the day after the 4th of July weekend. So on the recommendation of the immigration officer, it is my distinct honor to move that these 15 petitioners be granted United States citizenship upon the taking of the oath. Thank you.

18 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: Thank you.

19 Please stand. Raise your right hand and repeat after 20 me: I, state your name, hereby declare...

21 THE PETITIONERS: ...hereby declare...

22 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: ...on oath...

23 THE PETITIONERS: ...on oath...

24 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: ...that I absolutely and 25 entirely renounce...

1 THE PETITIONERS: ...that I absolutely and entirely 2 renounce...

3 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: ...and abjure... THE PETITIONERS: ...and abjure... 4 5 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: ...all allegiance... 6 THE PETITIONERS: ...all allegiance... 7 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: ...and fidelity to any 8 foreign prince... THE PETITIONERS: ... and fidelity to any foreign 9 10 prince... 11 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: ...potentate, state or 12 sovereignty... THE PETITIONERS: ...potentate, state or 13 14 sovereignty... CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: ... of whom or which I have 15 heretofore been a subject or citizen -- of whom or which I have 16 17 heretofore... THE PETITIONERS: ... of whom or which I have 18 19 heretofore... 20 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: ...been a subject or citizen... 21 22 THE PETITIONERS: ... been a subject or citizen... CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: ...that I will support and 23 24 defend... 25 THE PETITIONERS: ... that I will support and defend...

CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: ... the Constitution ... 1 THE PETITIONERS: ... the Constitution... 2 3 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: ... and laws of the United 4 States... 5 THE PETITIONERS: ... and laws of the United States... 6 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: ...against all enemies... 7 THE PETITIONERS: ...against all enemies... 8 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: ...foreign and domestic... 9 THE PETITIONERS: ... foreign and domestic... CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: ... and that I will bear true 10 11 faith and allegiance... 12 THE PETITIONERS: ... and that I will bear true faith and allegiance... 13 14 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: ... to the same ... THE PETITIONERS: ... to the same... 15 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: ...that I will bear arms... 16 THE PETITIONERS: ... that I will bear arms... 17 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: ... on behalf of the United 18 19 States... 20 THE PETITIONERS: ... on behalf of the United States... CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: ...when required by law... 21 22 THE PETITIONERS: ...when required by law... CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: ... that I will perform 23 noncombative service ... 24 25 THE PETITIONERS: ... that I will perform noncombative

1 service...

2	CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL:in the Armed Forces
3	THE PETITIONERS: in the Armed Forces
4	CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL:of the United States
5	THE PETITIONERS: of the United States
6	CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL:when required by law
7	THE PETITIONERS:when required by law
8	CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL:that I will perform work
9	of national importance
10	THE PETITIONERS:that I will perform work of
11	national importance
12	CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL:under civilian
13	direction
14	THE PETITIONERS: under civilian direction
15	CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL:when required by law
16	THE PETITIONERS:when required by law
17	CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL:and that I take this
18	obligation freely
19	THE PETITIONERS:and that I take this obligation
20	freely
21	CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL:without any mental
22	reservation
23	THE PETITIONERS:without any mental reservation
24	CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL:or purpose of evasion
25	THE PETITIONERS:or purpose of evasion

1 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: ...so help me God.

2 THE PETITIONERS: ...so help me God.

3 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: Congratulations. I will be 4 shaking your hands and handing out certificates a little later. 5 We have a few presentations to make, a few more introductions 6 and a speaker, so please be seated.

7 Let's stand for the pledge of allegiance.

8 (Pledge of allegiance.)

9 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: Please be seated. We are 10 pleased to welcome here today Barb Boyer, Heidi King and Dyan 11 Burns who are members of the Capital Quartet. And they will be 12 singing the "Star Spangled Banner."

13 ("Star Spangled Banner" performed.)

14 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: And now please direct your 15 attention to the video screens in the courtroom for the 16 President's video for naturalization.

17 (Video played.)

18 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: Now, before the certificates 19 are handed out I wanted to make some additional introductions. 20 What I would like to do today, for the certificates and 21 presentations by the patriotic organizations and by the Wyoming 22 delegation is now introduce the individuals that will be making 23 the various presentations.

We are pleased that we have a number of patriotic organizations here today who have truly enriched the naturalization program by their participation and by their
 hospitality.

After the ceremony, we will have a tea honoring and recognizing the new citizens. The hostesses for the tea are the Daughters of the American Revolution. Representing that group today we have Pam Imig, Brenda Rath and Donna Weaver, Regent. If you want to raise your hands so people know who you are so they know who to thank when they attend the tea.

9 We will have American flags presented to the citizens 10 by the VFW 1881 Auxiliary, and the two members of that 11 organization are Hazel Johnson and Diana Shinneman.

We will have the American Flag Code presented by the VFW-4343 Auxiliary by Mary Lou Lynn and Emma Fosnick.

We will have the Star Spangled Banner booklet
presented by the Colonial Dames, Judy Norman and Billie Neff.
Billie Neff is also standing in for the Colonial Dames of
America to present the Wyoming Constitution.

We will have the United States Constitution presented by the American Legion No. 6 Auxiliary. Representatives here today are Eva Moore, Frieda Warren, Martie Harbeck -- is that correct -- Bernice Gertsch, and Linda Byrd.

And then the congressional delegation is back hard at work in Washington, D.C. Their capable representatives who will be presenting letters on their behalf is Debby McCann, Jamie Gronski and Laura Weatherford. And I will wait to 1 introduce our speaker when we arrive at that time.

So at this point in time Judge Rankin and I will step down in the center with our clerk of court who gavelled in the ceremony, Tammy Hilliker, to hand out and shake each of your hands. We will be handing out the certificates and other paperwork associated with the naturalization.

7 When we're finished with that, we will step back so 8 that the presentations by the patriotic organizations can be 9 made and also the presentation by the letters -- or 10 presentation of letters by the Wyoming delegation.

11 What I would like to do when Judge Rankin and I get down off the bench is invite the very back row to step out of 12 13 the jury box so that -- it is always hard to reach either -either we're reaching through somebody or trying to stomp on 14 15 people's toes in that back row, so I would like you to just 16 exit the back row and come around and make a part circle here 17 kind of in front of the clerk's desk so that we get the 18 certificates handed out to the right people. If you could stay 19 in the same order, that would be terrific.

20 So I think is it Lorena Garcia, you will be leading 21 that row.

22 Judge Rankin, are you ready?

23 JUDGE RANKIN: Ready.

24 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: Okay. Tammy.

25 Just file down and around so everybody can get down

1 out of the box.

2	Lorena	Garcia.
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3 So Tie Tjeng.

If anyone wants to come up, feel free to come up and
take pictures. Nothing bad will happen to you if you're on
this side of that area.

7 Samrawit Belew, congratulations.

8 Margareta Stefanovic, congratulations.

9 Bonabe Vossler, congratulations.

10 Blanca Suarez, congratulations.

11 Triplyn Johnson, congratulations.

Lamia Goual, congratulations -- just stay down here because we will have other presentations to make. Just hang out down here.

15 Palkeshkumar Chaudhari, congratulations.

16 Sugata Tan, congratulations.

17 Mohammad Piri, congratulations.

18 Evelyn Maguire, congratulations.

19 Tiberiu Popa, congratulations.

20 Eustacio Ramirez, congratulations.

21 Betty Windom, congratulations.

22 Now I would invite the members of the patriotic

23 organizations to come forward to make your presentations.

24 (Applause.)

25 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: I am pleased and honored to

have as our guest speaker for today's ceremony Dr. Fagan, who is the Chief of Staff for Representative Lummis. He's officed here in Cheyenne. Speaks to your judgment, Tucker, in terms of not moving to D.C. and working out of there. We're happy to have you in this building. We're particularly happy to have you today address our new citizens.

7 DR. FAGAN: Thanks, Judge.

8 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: Sir.

9 DR. FAGAN: I am an American citizen.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Me, too.

DR. FAGAN: You are too. We know it is a long and daunting task to become a citizen. You won. Look around this courtroom at Judge Freudenthal, Judge Rankin, everybody here. We have something in common. Our parents, grandparents, in some cases great-grandparents did what you did, came to this country, took that chance, made a difference. You should be proud of yourselves. You did it, too.

I lived in a house with my grandmother. She came across the ocean when she was 14 years old with nobody. Penniless. She signed on as a cook for a very wealthy family in New York City. She brought her perseverance. She brought her name, and she brought herself to this country.

23 She raised a family, taught them integrity and 24 perseverance. My father was a 37-year New York firefighter. 25 He raised six kids. We all have at least a college education.

1 I'm in this room because of those two people. Think about it.

2 I spent 30 years in the United States Air Force. In 3 the Pentagon there are 23,000 people. One building. I was picked to go teach the President of the United States in the 4 5 White House. I went over there and taught him and Colin Powell, Secretary of Defense, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs. 6 My 7 grandmother went through fourth grade; her grandson in the 8 White House teaching the President of the United States.

9 How does that happen? It is because in our country we 10 honor ability and your effort and your name, not royalty, not 11 privilege. This is what America is.

12 I am an American, so are you.

13 Thank you.

14 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: Thank you, Tucker, for your 15 inspiring comments. We appreciate your taking the time today 16 out of your busy schedule, and I know the new citizens are 17 happy to have someone with your history, experience and 18 background addressing them today. Thank you very much.

I join everybody here present in congratulating you on your new citizenship. I realized as I was speaking the oath that for many of you a difficult part of that oath was where you renounced allegiance to any foreign state or sovereignty.

I wish to remind you, though, that what you solemnly renounced was allegiance to the government of another land. You did not renounce, nor should you ever renounce, the devotion you carry in your heart for your country of birth.
 Preserve that always. It is part of you. You enrich us by
 having that experience and having that history and having that
 culture.

5 And for the benefit of your children and your 6 grandchildren, I was quite impressed that you have so mastered 7 English. For some of you it may be your third, fourth or fifth 8 language. I am always humbled that you have proficiency in 9 language, and I am an American with English and I stumble if I 10 am in another country at any of their phrases. So 11 congratulations on that step that you have taken.

But I also encourage you to preserve your native language, your native culture and heritage. It not only helps enrich your family; it enriches the country that you have now joined as part of your family. For over 200 years this country has been blessed with a constant infusion of new people, new cultures, new languages, new heritage. You bless us with that culture, heritage and experience.

Now I want to talk to you about our country. You may hear voices in our country saying that there's only one true American religion. Do not believe those voices. As an American, you may freely and openly be a Christian, a Jew, a Hindu, a Buddhist, a Muslim. You may adhere to any religion or none at all. The choice is yours. It is your free choice. You may also hear voices in this land saying that

there's only one true American way to think or American way to believe on matters touching political, economic, social lives. Don't believe those voices. As an American, you may freely and openly adhere to political, economic and social views on the right, on the left, or anywhere in between.

6 You may also hear voices in this land saying that 7 there's only one true American set of values. Don't believe 8 those voices. As an American, you may hold beliefs and values 9 that differ greatly from those around you. Even if you share 10 those values and beliefs and no one else does, it is your 11 right.

12 Simply stated, there no true American, there is no 13 true American way to think or believe. Conformity of thought 14 and principle runs afoul of the values upon which this country 15 was founded.

Now, Felix Frankfurter, a great man, came to this country in 1894 from Austria. When he was 12 years old, he became an American citizen, like you. He went on to become a Justice of the United States Supreme Court. Justice Frankfurter believed that in this country the highest office is the office of citizen.

Each of you now hold that highest office in this country, the office of citizen. You have assumed that high office, and with it comes many rights and privileges. You have read about those in your studies, the Bill of Rights and the

1 privileges that you're guaranteed under the Constitution.

2 With all of those privileges and rights, this country 3 asks only three things of you as obligations, and you addressed some of those in the oath you took. You have the obligation to 4 serve in times of war if called and required to do so. You 5 have the obligation to pay taxes. And you also have an 6 7 obligation to sit if called on a jury. I hope some day to have 8 one or more of you in this courtroom sitting in that very same 9 jury box as a jury upholding the rule of law.

I also suggest that there are some other duties: The duty to remain informed, the duty to vote, the duty to participate in the political process. But most importantly, perhaps above all of those secondary duties besides the ones you took in your oath, is the duty to work to make the United States of America the country you hoped to find when you got here and the country that you want it to be.

17 Congratulations again. I welcome you as new citizens, 18 part of the American family, with all the rights and duties. 19 And I thank you for enriching us and choosing to make this 20 country your home.

21 Now I'm pleased to turn to Judge Rankin for some
22 remarks, sir.

JUDGE RANKIN: Thank you, Chief Judge Freudenthal.
And welcome. You are all now Americans. Before I add
any further remarks, I want to point out a distinguished guest

who I think just snuck in a moment ago. But Governor Dave
 Freudenthal is present here this afternoon. Welcome, Governor
 Freudenthal.

4 (Applause.)

5 JUDGE RANKIN: An interesting side note to the oath of allegiance, the oath that you just took a few moments ago, has 6 been given to citizens such as yourselves for a long, long 7 8 time. It was first recorded as having been given in 1778 in 9 Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, during the American Revolutionary 10 So millions of immigrants, folks like you, Americans, War. have taken this oath since that time. So something to ponder 11 12 in terms of just how many times that long oath has been 13 administered.

14 So what does it mean to be an American? Chief Judge 15 Freudenthal mentioned a moment ago what it means. It means you 16 get to vote, you get to be jurors now, and you get to enjoy all 17 of the freedoms and liberties of newly sworn citizens of these 18 United States. And no doubt, these are very important rights 19 and liberties that you will each enjoy for the balance of your 20 lives, rights and liberties, quite frankly, that people all 21 over the world enjoy.

But what else does it mean to be an American? But most importantly it means that we are free. Abraham Lincoln says that, "Freedom is not the right to do what we want, but what we ought. Let us have faith that right makes might and,

1 in that faith, let us to the end dare to do our duty as we 2 understand it."

More than freedom, as President Theodore Roosevelt once said, "Americanism is a question of principles: Principles of idealism, of character. It is not a matter of birthplace, of creed or line of descent."

7 I would only add that this country's power lies in its 8 citizens' uniqueness and in their unity. You are doing more 9 today than completing a legal process. You are making a 10 lifelong promise to uphold the laws and values that make 11 America what it is, that promise that comes with great 12 privileges of America citizenship and it also comes with, of 13 course, great responsibilities.

New employment and leadership doors are being opened to you wide today. I would encourage you to explore what lies behind each of those doors. And there's no doubt that all of your communities have much to gain from each of you in the years to come.

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

23 (Applause.)

CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: And now we will enjoyanother presentation, "America the Beautiful," performed by,

again, Barb Boyer, Heidi King and Dyan Burns from the Capital
 Quartet.

3 ("America The Beautiful" performed.)

4 (Applause.)

5 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: And before we adjourn, I 6 want to again remind everyone that there will be refreshments 7 in the jury assembly room immediately following the ceremony, 8 and everyone is invited to join and congratulate our new 9 citizens.

But before we adjourn let's all give our newly naturalized citizens a strong round of applause.

12 (Applause.)

13 CHIEF JUDGE FREUDENTHAL: Judge Rankin and I will stay 14 after the ceremony if you would like to have pictures taken. 15 Please feel free to come forward. We would love to chat with 16 you all. I have a bench trial that will be starting back up, 17 but I will take time to congratulate you and visit with you and 18 have pictures taken.

Again, there are refreshments across the hall in the jury assembly room. We stand adjourned.

21 (Proceedings concluded 2:20 p.m., July 8, 2013.)

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1	CERTIFICATE
2	
3	
4	
5	I, JANET DAVIS, Federal Official Court Reporter for
6	the United States District Court for the District of Wyoming, a
7	Registered Merit Reporter and Federal Certified Realtime
8	Reporter, do hereby certify that I reported by machine
9	shorthand the foregoing proceedings contained herein on the
10	aforementioned subject on the date herein set forth, and that
11	the foregoing pages constitute a full, true and correct
12	transcript.
13	
14	Dated this 28th day of August, 2013.
15	
16	
17	
18	1s/ Janet Davis
19	
20	JANET DAVIS
21	United States Court Reporter Registered Merit Reporter
22	Federal Certified Realtime Reporter
23	
24	
25	