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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:

Casper, Wyoming
September 8, 2025
3:38 p.m.

JACOBUS JOHANNES BARKHUIZEN,
HASHINTHA UPEKSHA JAYASINGHE,
ISMAEL AGUILERA TORRES, TARA
ROCHELLE STEARNS, MARIA IRMA
PEREZ, OBED WILFREDO IZAGUIRRE
VALDEZ, OSWALDO JAIR SANTANA
ARIAS, LINH THUY PHUONG LE,
DARIIA KASYMOVA, GULNUR HEDGES,
HUGO FELIPE DA COSTA SANTOS,
PAULINA VIRGINIA DELAYE CHAVEZ,
FABIOLA CAROLINA LUCES LEON,
PABLO ALBERTO MEDINA MOROSINI,
MARIBEL MEMBRENO AGUILAR, SILVIA
MUNOZ MARTINEZ, SANAE AKIZAWA
RINCK, TRICIA ANNE HUTZENBIELER,
THAO PHUONG PHUNG, DAVINA
ELIZABETH HEYWOOD KELLER,

Ewing T. Kerr
Federal Courthouse

Petitioners.

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

BEFORE THE HONORABLE SCOTT W. SKAVDAHL
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

JANET DAVIS, RDR, FCRR, CRR
Federal Official Court Reporter
2120 Capitol Avenue, Room 2226, Cheyenne, WY 82001
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Proceedings reported by realtime stenographic reporter;
transcript produced with Computer-Aided Transcription.

1 APPEARANCES:

2

3 For the United States: Office of the United States Attorney
4 District of Wyoming
5 BY: CHRISTYNE MARTENS
6 Assistant United States Attorney
7 100 East B Street, Suite 2211
8 Casper, WY 82601

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1 (Proceedings commenced 3:38 p.m., September 8, 2025.)

2 THE COURT: Thank you. Please be seated.

3 Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen, and welcome to
4 the Ewing T. Kerr Federal Courthouse for a naturalization
5 session.

6 The Court will suspend all rules on cameras and
7 recording devices. I would ask if you could put your ringer on
8 silent for us.

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

14 As of this morning, 7,091 American men and women have
15 been killed in action while involved in military operations in
16 the Middle East. In addition, 53,556 United States military
17 personnel have been wounded in action during these military
18 operations. Let us take a moment of silence and recognize
19 those American heroes and their families whose sacrifice cannot
20 be 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 foreign
25 nationals to become United States citizens. It is with great

1 honor, pride and privilege that I am able to conduct today's
2 ceremony naturalizing 20 new United States citizens from 15
3 different countries around the world. The District Court of
4 Wyoming, including Chief Judge Rankin, Judges Johnson,
5 Freudenthal, Klosterman and Hambrick all extend their
6 congratulations to you and your family and friends.

7 At this time I would ask Ms. Blanco with U.S.
8 Immigration and Naturalization Service if you could please take
9 a roll call of the prospective applicants for U.S. citizenship.

10 And if you could please raise your hand when your name
11 is called.

12 MS. BLANCO: We have Jacobus Johannes Barkhuizen,
13 Hashintha Upeksha Jayasinghe, Ismael Aguilera Torres, Tara
14 Rochelle Stearns, Maria Irma Perez, Obed Wilfredo Izaguirre
15 Valdez, Oswaldo Jair Santana Arias, Linh Thuy Phuong Le, Dariia
16 Kasymova, Gulnur Hedges, Hugo Felipe Da Costa Santos, Paulina
17 Virginia Delaye Chavez, Fabiola Carolina Luces Leon, Pablo
18 Alberto Medina Morosini, Maribel Membreno Aguilar, Silvia Munoz
19 Martinez, Sanae Akizawa Rinck, Tricia Anne Hutzenbieler, Thao
20 Phuong Phung, Davina Elizabeth Heywood Keller.

21 Those are the 20 candidates for naturalization.

22 THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Santos [sic]. You did that
23 very very well, and I am glad I did not have to say those
24 names. That's part of the madness behind my method of having
25 her say that.

1 Let me get back on my page that I turned too quickly.

2 Ms. Blanco. I would correct myself there.

3 At this time I would ask if Colonel Johnson and the
4 Natrona County ROTC could post the colors, and if you could
5 join us in one of our most fundamental acts as citizens and
6 that is pledging our allegiance to the flag of the United
7 States, led by Ms. Maya Santos.

8 (Pledge of Allegiance.)

9 THE COURT: Thank you, Maya.

10 And now I would ask the playing of the Star-Spangled
11 Banner.

12 (Star-Spangled Banner played.)

13 (Colors presentment ended.)

14 THE COURT: Thank you, Lieutenant Colonel Johnson and
15 the Natrona County Junior ROTC.

16 At this time I would ask the clerk of court to play
17 the President's video.

18 (Presidential message played.)

19 THE COURT: Thank you.

20 At this time I would recognize Ms. Christyne Martens
21 with the United States Attorney's Office and representing the
22 Attorney General of the United States.

23 Ms. Martens, do you have a petition?

24 MS. MARTENS: I do. Would you like me at the podium,
25 Your Honor?

1 THE COURT: Please.

2 MS. MARTENS: May it please the Court.

3 THE COURT: Counsel.

4 MS. MARTENS: Before the Court today are individuals
5 here for hearing on their petition for naturalization. Each of
6 the prospective citizens have successfully completed all of the
7 steps necessary for eligibility for United States citizenship.

8 In addition, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration
9 Service has completed its processes with respect to each of
10 these individuals, including necessary background
11 investigations.

12 Having successfully negotiated all of these hurdles,
13 we're advised that each of them is well qualified to be
14 admitted to citizenship.

15 Therefore, on behalf of the United States, I hereby
16 move that this Court admit each of these individuals to United
17 States citizenship upon taking of the required oath. Thank
18 you.

19 THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Martens.

20 And on the petition of the United States, the Court
21 finds that each of these applicants identified has satisfied
22 the legal requirements to become United States citizens and,
23 therefore, will grant the petition of the United States and
24 enter an order allowing these petitioners to become citizens of
25 the United States upon the taking of their oath.

1 I need to clarify one thing. And let me have -- if I
2 could have the -- Ms. Blanco, if you could come forward for a
3 moment, I've got a question.

4 (Discussion held.)

5 THE COURT: Her signature is more important than mine.

6 MS. BLANCO: Just today.

7 THE COURT: All right. Let me sign this so that I
8 don't forget or miss it.

9 All right. Now for the all-important oath. If you
10 could all rise and raise your right hand.

11 I, state your name, hereby declare on oath that I
12 absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and
13 fidelity to any prince or potentate, state or sovereignty of
14 whom or which I have heretofore been a subject or citizen; that
15 I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the
16 United States of America against all enemies, foreign or
17 domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the
18 same; that I will bear arms on behalf of the United States of
19 America when required by law; that I take this obligation
20 freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion,
21 so help me God.

22 Congratulations to our newest citizens.

23 (Applause.)

24 THE COURT: If you will go ahead and have a seat, I
25 will hand out your certificates. And I'm going to ask in

1 advance to make sure you've got the right one because we have a
2 few things switched. You're welcome -- those of you sitting
3 back there, if you want to take a picture, you can move around
4 to do so.

5 (Presentation of certificates.)

6 THE COURT: I would recognize various organizations,
7 many of which have contributed to the opportunities that we
8 have had today to enjoy the rights and freedoms we do.

9 First let's recognize the Daughters of the American
10 Revolution, Ms. Trumbull, Rowe and Wilson.

11 MS. ROWE: Thank you, Your Honor. Congratulations,
12 Your Honor, my fellow Americans. My name is Kristin Rowe, and
13 I'm here on behalf of the Fort Caspar Chapter Daughters of the
14 American Revolution. We are a women's service organization
15 focusing on historic preservation, education and patriotism.

16 I consider myself very lucky as I was born here in the
17 United States. My ancestors fought for this right for me. I
18 have been given freedoms and opportunities others can only
19 dream of. This is something in which I take great pride.

20 Each of you have had a unique journey sitting here
21 today, none of which were easy, I'm sure of it. Whether you
22 came by boat, plane, bus, or foot, you made the necessary steps
23 to join us all as citizens today. You surpassed many difficult
24 adjustments that came with moving to a new country and fought
25 hard to become Americans, just like me and my DAR sisters.

1 I commend you on your hard work and dedication to
2 achieve this status. I would like to welcome you on behalf of
3 the Fort Caspar Chapter DAR as our newest countrymen and women.
4 We ask only that you love America, cherish her, honor her,
5 protect her, and embrace all the possibilities you are given
6 from this point.

7 May God bless each one of you on this new journey.
8 Thank you.

9 THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Rowe, for your words.
10 And thank you, Ms. Trumbull and Ms. Wilson, for
11 assisting and passing out the various items.

12 Let me also recognize another group, Wyoming Society
13 of U.S. Daughters of 1812. Ms. Haines.

14 MS. HAINES: Hello.

15 THE COURT: Good afternoon.

16 MS. HAINES: On behalf of the Wyoming members of the
17 United States Daughters of the War of 1812, I am delighted to
18 participate in your ceremony of naturalization today.

19 The War of 1812 was a continuation of sorts of the
20 Revolutionary War to guarantee that the conditions agreed upon
21 at the end of the Revolutionary War were honored. Many
22 Revolutionary War patriots also fought in the War of 1812, as
23 did some of their sons and even some of their daughters.

24 Similar to the Daughters of the American Revolution
25 who just spoke to you, our daughters are descendents of the War

1 of 1812 who continued the fight to preserve the freedoms of the
2 United States.

3 It is my sincerest honor to say to you today welcome
4 as a citizen of our beautiful United States of America. Thank
5 you.

6 THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Haines.

7 I would now -- and I'm always hesitant to make sure I
8 say this correctly -- United Veterans of Natrona County or
9 Natrona County United Veterans Council.

10 Mr. Williams.

11 I'm sorry. We have a remote court reporter, so I
12 wanted to move that down to the end of the table for you.

13 MR. LAURENZ: Yes, sir. My name is Hank Laurenz. I'm
14 president of the Natrona County United Veterans Council. And
15 we're basically a combined effort by all the veterans
16 organizations within Natrona County.

17 At this time I would like to introduce Dean Welch from
18 the American Legion.

19 MR. WELCH: Good afternoon, everyone.
20 Congratulations. My name is Dean Welch. I'm the post adjutant
21 for the American Legion here in Casper.

22 The American Legion was established in 1919 after
23 World War I to start supporting the veterans, because a lot of
24 them came home, were selling apples on the corners because they
25 had no guarantees for their jobs back, had no way to feed their

1 families. So the American Legion was created to help support
2 those veterans and their families, help them find jobs. We
3 promote Americanism, support our communities.

4 We have been in Casper since 1919 as well, so 106
5 years of us being -- supporting our local veterans.

6 We would like to present you with, as the Judge calls
7 them, your naturalization swag bags, because you're going to
8 get a lot of goodies to put inside those bags, so we want your
9 hands free to be able to hug your loved ones and still be able
10 to take your certificates and everything home with you today.

11 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Welch.

12 MR. LAURENZ: At this time I would like to introduce
13 Ernie Blackford from the VFW.

14 THE COURT: Mr. Blackford.

15 MR. BLACKFORD: Good morning. My name is Ernie
16 Blackford. I'm past post commander of the VFW 9439. I
17 represent the VFW, which also stands for Veterans of Foreign
18 Wars.

19 We were established in 1898 at the end of the
20 Spanish-American War with the mission to support returning
21 servicemen from foreign soils. And today our mission includes
22 all veterans, their families and their communities.

23 And with that, I would like to wish you a very warm
24 Wyoming welcome.

25 (Applause.)

1 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Blackford.

2 MR. LAURENZ: A little bit about the Natrona County
3 United Veterans Council, since we're a combination of all the
4 veterans organizations within Natrona County, we do funeral
5 honors for all the veterans that pass away during the year. We
6 average between 110 and 130 a year. With that, we did five
7 last week and we will do four this week. But these gentlemen
8 all volunteer their time to do that. The families seem to
9 really enjoy it and it brings closure.

10 So with that, we thank all of you and congratulations
11 on your citizenship.

12 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Laurenz.

13 Thank you, gentlemen. And thank you for all you and
14 your fellow service members have done to provide us with the
15 rights and privileges we enjoy, as well as the Daughters of the
16 American Revolution and Daughters of 1812.

17 I believe the next entity on my list is the League of
18 Women Voters.

19 Is there anyone here on behalf of that entity?

20 I don't see anyone raising their hand, so let me go
21 next to the Natrona County 4-H, and, I believe, Jessica and
22 Judy Bennett.

23 MS. BENNETT: On behalf of Natrona County 4-H, we
24 would like to extend our congratulations.

25 THE COURT: Ms. Bennett, if I could have you get to

1 that microphone. Sorry. We have a remote court reporter.

2 MS. BENNETT: That's okay.

3 We would like to extend our congratulations on your
4 citizenship. Our gift to you is Wyoming jade. It is our state
5 official gemstone and was once called the green gold of
6 Wyoming. From ancient times jade has been valuable and sought
7 after. Many attribute qualities of luck, prosperity, healing,
8 balance, harmony, and many other qualities.

9 We hope that wherever your American journey and
10 adventures take you, it will be full of these things and the
11 small piece of Wyoming will go with you to remind you where it
12 all began. God bless.

13 (Presentation by Natrona County 4-H.)

14 (Applause.)

15 THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Bennett.

16 Next on my list is various elected representatives and
17 their representatives that are very important to you now,
18 because you now possess the right to vote, and that right is
19 something that you need to exercise. And when you don't like
20 what's going on, there's a phone number to call. And it will
21 be in these handouts, and you call that number; make your voice
22 heard; participate in our government and make it better.

23 With that, I'd recognize representatives from Senator
24 Barrasso's office, Mr. Makelmore and Mr. Walters; and from
25 Senator Lummis' office, Ms. Garner; and from Congresswoman

1 Hageman's office, Ms. Scaling, Ms. Derringer, and Ms. Hedges.

2 (Presentation by congressional delegation.)

3 THE COURT: All right. I apologize. We created a
4 little confusion in switching some people around and the
5 congressional representatives have worked hard to get your
6 names and hand you personalized letters as opposed to
7 generic "Welcome new U.S. citizen," so that switch around -- I
8 think I've got a solution next time that we can look at so we
9 don't cause you so much shuffling. I apologize for that.

10 But thank you for doing that. And, again, ladies and
11 gentlemen, those are your -- your elected representatives.
12 Exercise your rights to let your voice be heard and your vote
13 taken.

14 With that, let me -- one of the things that we find
15 very interesting is to allow each of the new U.S. citizens to
16 tell us anyone that's here with them today and one thing that
17 they think is great about today. And you don't have to be a
18 public speaker, I promise. Just very minimal, and we just want
19 to know who is here with you today and anything else that you
20 would like to tell us that makes today special.

21 We'd start with Mr. Jacobus Johannes Barkhuizen.

22 MR. BARKHUIZEN: My name is Jake Barkhuizen. With me
23 today is my daughter Ellory. We are from South Africa, and she
24 is currently at CSU, a student there.

25 THE COURT: All right. Congratulations. Welcome.

1 MS. JAYASINGHE: I'm from Sri Lanka. And no one is
2 here with me today because no one could make the trip, but
3 everyone is here.

4 MR. TORRES: Nobody here with me because everybody is
5 at home.

6 THE COURT: We're all with you.

7 MR. TORRES: Yes, same. Thank you so much. I'm from
8 Mexico.

9 THE COURT: Welcome.

10 MS. STEARNS: I am Tara Stearns, and my mom and dad,
11 Paul and Irma are here. My best friend Bonnie is here.

12 THE COURT: Congratulations and welcome.

13 MS. PEREZ: I am Maria. I am from Mexico. And my mom
14 is here with me. She drove from Colorado. And I'm very proud
15 to be a citizen.

16 THE COURT: We're very proud to have you.
17 Congratulations.

18 MR. IAZGUIRRE: Hello. My name is Obed Izaguirre. I
19 got my brother, my daughter, my son. I'm very happy and
20 appreciate everybody. Thank you.

21 THE COURT: Congratulations. Thank you.

22 MR. SANTANA: Hello. I'm Oswaldo Santana. My lovely
23 wife is here, wife and my fellow dearest friends and all my
24 fellow Americans now. Thank you very much.

25 MS. LE: I'm Linh. I'm come here from Vietnam, but I

1 come here with my mom, my dad and my family. Thank you.

2 THE COURT: Congratulations.

3 MS. KASYMOVA: I'm Dariia. My family is here, my
4 boyfriend and my best friends are all here. So thank you.

5 MS. LUCES: My name is Fabiola Luces, and I'm here
6 with my son Matthew and with Emily and her children from my
7 church community. They also join me today. Thank you.

8 THE COURT: Welcome.

9 MS. PEREZ: Hi. My name is Maria Irma Perez (speaking
10 Spanish).

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I am here to translate for my
12 friend. She's from Mexico. Her name is Maria Irma Perez, and
13 she's right here with her husband, children and friends.

14 We're so proud of you, Irma, to become United States
15 of America citizen. Thank you.

16 MS. HEDGES: Hello, everyone. My name is Gulnur
17 Hedges, originally from Kazakhstan. I waited for this day for
18 long seven years. Finally I'm so proud to stand here and
19 become -- became a citizen of United States of America. I love
20 this country.

21 And today I have with me my husband and my
22 mother-in-law. She's 98 years old, and I'm happy she was able
23 to witness this day with me. Thank you.

24 THE COURT: We are too. Congratulations.

25 MR. SANTOS: Everyone, my name is Hugo Santos. I'm

1 originally from Brazil and here today I have my beautiful wife,
2 Katy; my amazing daughter, Maya, and my two amazing sons,
3 Connor and Kaden. And today is the first day we will have a
4 full house, a house full of Americans. So really excited
5 about that. Thank you very much. Appreciate it.

6 MR. MEDINA: My name is Pablo Medina. I'm from
7 Uruguay. My wife is here with me. I is happy for today and
8 everything makes it a good day. Thank you.

9 MS. AGUILAR: Hi. My name is Maribel. I'm coming
10 from Honduras. She is my friend, then, my special friend, and
11 I am so proud of this country for this opportunity, and my day
12 is the best day for me in this country. Thank you very much
13 for everybody.

14 THE COURT: You're welcome. Congratulations.

15 MS. MARTINEZ: I am Sylvia. I have here my husband,
16 my son, my daughter McKayla and my husband's friend. They are
17 my family. They are my American dream. I can't wait to keep
18 serving my community, Wheatland, and I can't wait to explore
19 all the possibilities. This is the greatest -- one of the
20 greatest days of my life. Thank you.

21 MS. RINCK: Hi. My name is Sanae. Here with my
22 husband, John. All the paperworks and exams are finally done,
23 I'm so happy. Thank you.

24 THE COURT: Congratulations.

25 MS. HUTZENBIELER: My name is Tricia. I'm here with

1 my husband, daughter, and future son-in-law. Thank you.

2 THE COURT: Thank you. Congratulations.

3 MS. PHUNG: Hello. My name is Thao Phung and I'm from
4 Vietnam. Thank you all for spending time with us today on this
5 special day, a very special day today. Thank you.

6 THE COURT: Congratulations.

7 MS. KELLER: My name is Davina, and I have my very
8 good husband over here. And I have wonderful friends,
9 Ms. Merdi from my church. I have Ms. Rita and Ms. Jenny who I
10 work with, and I have a wonderful young lady, Ms. Harper, that
11 came today. And just so overwhelmed with it.

12 And I would like to say thank you. Today means
13 everything to me. My heart aligns now with where I come from,
14 so I am very proud to be an American citizen

15 THE COURT: We're proud to have you.

16 Thank you and welcome, all of you, my fellow
17 Americans.

18 Ms. Martens, I would recognize you on behalf of the
19 Attorney General of the United States for remarks.

20 MS. MARTENS: Good afternoon.

21 So the Judge introduced me earlier as an Assistant
22 United States Attorney, and what that means is I'm a federal
23 prosecutor and I get to regularly stand up in court and say, I
24 am here on behalf of the United States of America.

25 The first few times that I said those words, it sort

1 of hit me about what the gravity of standing up and
2 representing the United States really means. I represent my
3 country every time I show up in a courtroom like this
4 courtroom. And I do so with the Constitution and the laws in
5 mind and to the best of my ability to carry out everything that
6 it means to be an American citizen.

7 And I thought after a while maybe that would not loom
8 so large when I show up in a courtroom, but, let me tell you,
9 it really hasn't worn off, and I think that's a good thing.
10 And I wish for you the very same.

11 Today you join "the people," and I hope that the
12 things that you are feeling today do not wear off for you, that
13 you love this country, that you embrace everything that she has
14 to offer, and everything wonderful about this great American
15 family finds its way to you, that it is for you and you give it
16 to your communities as well.

17 "The people" is a term that is repeatedly used in our
18 Constitution and its amendments, talking about the rights and
19 responsibilities of American citizens. And today that's you.
20 Think about that. You are now part of "the people." Welcome
21 to the great political community and all of the rights and
22 obligations that come with it.

23 This great nation is a tapestry. It is vibrant and
24 it's beautiful, and together we are woven together stronger and
25 we are better. And it is my pleasure just to say welcome, and

1 I am so very happy for you.

2 (Applause.)

3 THE COURT: Let me just -- based upon prior
4 experiences, how many of you have taken five years on this
5 journey to become a United States citizen? Raise your hand.

6 Well, how many of you -- how many have taken more than
7 20 years?

8 How many more than 15?

9 How many less than five?

10 None of them.

11 That's the dedication that they have shown to become
12 able to sit here today and take that oath and make that pledge.
13 And it is a journey that's not been easy. I have no idea how
14 difficult it can be because I was born with the gift of
15 citizenship to the United States, as many of us were.

16 But you have completed that journey today, and you've
17 done it the right way and the hard way. But that's part of
18 what makes the American dream the American dream. It is not
19 given; it has to be earned. But once it is earned, it is
20 extremely valuable that you continue on with that dream.

21 Congratulations to you, your families and friends.
22 The importance and significance of this event, this journey
23 today and your families -- to your families and friends cannot
24 be overstated. Unlike many, you weren't gifted, but you've had
25 to work hard to get here, and your hard work and dedication of

1 you and your families and friends should not go unappreciated
2 or unnoticed.

3 There is no perfect country or government, and the
4 United States of America is certainly no different. The
5 exception is that our country was forged by immigrants such as
6 yourselves who had experienced tyranny, persecution, feudalism,
7 oppression by their governments and were willing to sacrifice,
8 and many did sacrifice it all, for the betterment of their
9 families and their future and the future generations of
10 Americans.

11 These men and women formed a government unlike any
12 other, one designed to serve the people, not one where the
13 people serve the government. We, the people; you are now part
14 of we, the people. That is why it is so critical that as
15 citizens you and all of us participate and contribute to our
16 government, because we, the people give the government its
17 power. To improve or change we must all participate, lest we
18 stand silent and fail to exercise our rights and support our
19 Constitution and recognize it is we, the people who must
20 exercise, support and defend our rights, we run the risk of
21 extinction, just like any other government.

22 Our Constitution is simply a piece of paper. What
23 makes it a living document is the people who take an oath to it
24 and loyalty and believe in and defend. Otherwise, it is
25 rendered valueless.

1 Our Constitution was crafted not based upon a
2 universal ideology, but, rather, on compromise and appreciation
3 that no singular idea or system was superior, but, rather, an
4 amalgamation of views and systems that have come together to
5 provide a structure that has endured a civil war, two world
6 wars and several terrorist attacks.

7 To our newest U.S. citizens, I encourage you with your
8 enthusiasm, skills and talents to make us more diverse and a
9 more talented country and enrich our democracy.

10 Vote, exercise your rights and freedoms, including the
11 rights and freedoms and obligation to sit as jurors in that
12 very -- those very seats you're in today. Fellow citizens sit
13 as finders of fact over charges brought by the United States
14 against a fellow citizen or disputes between fellow citizens
15 are resolved by jurors. We don't resolve it in the streets.
16 We don't resolve it with guns. We resolve it with an organized
17 and civilized system of justice that you are critical to the
18 participation and resolution of.

19 We must all appreciate how and why we enjoy the
20 freedoms. It is not because we all think and believe the same,
21 but, rather, because we respect each other's diversity and
22 freedoms to have differing beliefs. You are now part of us,
23 the richly woven fabric of the United States of America.

24 May we never forget the rights and freedoms that exist
25 only because of those who forged this country, believed in it,

1 gave their sweat, blood, and life to defend it, and put aside
2 their own self-interest.

3 May we always honor our commitment to each other above
4 self, and may God continue to bless the United States of
5 America.

6 Congratulations.

7 (Applause.)

8 THE COURT: Congratulations to all. We will stand in
9 recess.

10 (Proceedings concluded 4:28 p.m., September 8, 2025.)

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I, JANET DAVIS, Federal Official Court Reporter for the United States District Court for the District of Wyoming, a Registered Diplomat 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 17th day of October, 2025.

/s/ Janet Davis

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