



June 23, 2004

Advisory

**USCIS DIRECTOR AGUIRRE TO SPEAK AT CHICAGO
NATURALIZATION CEREMONY**
200 New Americans Representing 49 Countries to be Sworn-In

Washington, D.C. - Eduardo Aguirre, Director, U. S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS), will be the keynote speaker at a naturalization ceremony for 200 new Americans representing 49 countries, 11 a.m., at the Harold Washington Library, 400 S. State Street, Chicago, Illinois. The Chicago naturalization ceremony is part of the nation's week long celebration of citizenship ceremonies around the country to honor the nation's 228th birthday on July 4th. This year's USCIS naturalization theme is "Citizenship- The American Dream in Action". Immediately following the ceremony, Director Aguirre will hold a press availability at the Library.

On March 1, 2003, USCIS became one of three legacy Immigration and Naturalization Service components to join the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. USCIS is charged with fundamentally transforming and improving the delivery of immigration and citizenship services, while enhancing the integrity of our nation's security. During the past year, USCIS has helped more than 640,000 men, women and children fulfill their dreams by becoming United States citizens, including more than 8,000 military service personnel.

Events: Naturalization ceremony for new 200 Americans and press availability immediately following the ceremony.

Date: Thursday, July 1, 2004

Time: 11:00 a.m. (Press should arrive by 10:30 a.m. for security processing.)

Press availability with Director Aguirre: 12:00-12:30 p.m.

Location: Harold Washington Library, 400 S. State Street, Chicago, Illinois

Contact: Dan Kane (202) 353-8472 (MEDIA ONLY)

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