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NEWS RELEASE

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July 29, 2003

Immigration Judges Preside Over Naturalization Ceremonies

MIAMI, FL – Immigration Judges Michael C. Horn and Rex J. Ford from the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) Immigration Court in Miami presided over the swearing-in of approximately 6,000 new citizens at two large naturalization ceremonies at the Miami Beach Convention Center today.

Judge Horn administered the oath of citizenship for approximately 3,000 candidates at a morning ceremony and Judge Ford administered the oath for the remaining candidates at the afternoon ceremony. Both ceremonies were hosted by the Miami District Office of the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.

EOIR is a component of the Department of Justice which, on behalf of the Attorney General, adjudicates cases involving aliens who are charged with immigration violations. EOIR has more than 220 Immigration Judges located in 52 Immigration Courts nationwide to conduct proceedings and decide individual cases. The agency also includes the Board of Immigration Appeals to hear appeals of Immigration Judge decisions and the Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer to handle employment-related immigration matters.

Biographical Information

Judge Rex J. Ford was appointed Immigration Judge in April 1993. He received his B.A. from Arizona State University in 1977, and his J.D. from Nova University Law Center in 1984. From 1989 to 1993, Judge Ford served as an associate deputy attorney general for the Department of Justice in Washington, DC. From 1987 to 1989, he was associate dean for Nova University Law Center in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. From 1985 to 1986, Judge Ford was a partner for the law firm of Tucker, Ford, and Milbrath in Ocala, Florida. From 1984 to 1985, he served as general counsel for Skyway Commuter, Inc., also in Ocala. Judge Ford is a member of the Florida and District of Columbia Bars.

Judge Michael C. Horn was appointed Immigration Judge in November 1983. He received his B.A. from St. Louis University in 1968, and his J.D. from Loyola University Law School in 1971. Prior to his appointment as an Immigration Judge, he worked as an administrative law judge for the Administrative Hearing Commission, State of Missouri, in Jefferson City, Missouri, from 1977 to 1983. From 1974 to 1977, he served as chairman for the Missouri State Board of Mediation in Jefferson City. From 1971 to 1974, Judge Horn served as an assistant public defender in St. Louis, Missouri. He is a member of the Missouri Bar.

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