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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

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PRESS RELEASE

July 19, 2023

The United States District Court for the Northern District of Florida will hold a Naturalization Ceremony Friday, July 21, 2023, at 10:00 A.M. in the 5th floor courtroom at the United States Courthouse, One North Palafox Street, Pensacola, Florida. Forty-three (43) candidates from twenty-nine (29) different countries are expected to take the oath of citizenship. Jason R. Coody, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Florida, will make the "Motion for Admission" to the Court on behalf of the candidates.

The Honorable M. Casey Rodgers, United States District Judge, will preside at the ceremony and will be joined by the Honorable Lacey A. Collier, United States District Judge, and the Honorable Coleman Lee Robinson, Circuit Judge, First Judicial Circuit for the State of Florida.

Local Boy Scout Troop 415 led by Scoutmaster J.G. Heidenheimer from Pensacola will attend the ceremony and will assist by leading in the Pledge of Allegiance. Jonah Robinson, Eagle Scout, will present an essay on "What it Means to be an American." Scouts, Luke Cathey and Uryah McCasland, will present flag kits to the "wisest" and "youngest" candidates, respectively.

Dr. Leo Day will perform the national anthem and a patriotic celebration of song.

Our guest speaker is Mayor D.C. Reeves, who will be introduced by former two-term Pensacola mayor, Ashton James Hayward, III.

The United States Naval Color Guard Unit from Corry Station under the command of Petty Officer First Class Andrew Ebel will present the Colors of the Flag at the ceremony.

Media interested in covering this event must contact Allison Hunnicutt, Resident Deputy in Charge, United States District Court, via email at <u>Allison_Hunnicutt@flnd.uscourts.gov</u>, or telephone at (850) 470-8120 for media access and escort to the ceremony.