



**District Court of Guam**  
4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR, U.S. COURTHOUSE  
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HAGÁTÑA, GUAM 96910



CHAMBER OF  
Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood  
Chief Judge

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**DISTRICT COURT OF GUAM NATURALIZATION CEREMONY**  
**Court Celebrates Independence Day**

On Thursday, July 2, 2015, at 9:30 a.m., the District Court of Guam will host a special Independence Day Naturalization Ceremony where the Court will welcome and witness America's 27 newest citizens take the oath of citizenship. This will be a momentous event for our new citizens, who hail from the countries of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Philippines, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam.

The keynote speaker for this special day is Brigadier General Andrew J. Toth, Commander for the 36th Wing, Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. He is responsible for five groups and 17 squadrons, executing Pacific Command's Continuous Bomber Presence, Theater Security Packages and Contingency Response Operations. He is also tasked to ensure the successful deployment, employment and integration of air and space forces from the most forward sovereign U.S. Air Force base in the Pacific region. As installation commander, he is responsible for the well-being of more than 8,500 military and civilian personnel on Andersen Air Force Base. Additionally, he assists with installation management of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands as the Deputy Commander of Joint Region Marianas.

Each year on the Fourth of July, our nation celebrates the historic day in 1776 when the Founding Fathers and the representatives from the 13 colonies signed the Declaration of Independence. Since then the Declaration of Independence has become a well-known statement on human rights . . . "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness." "To this day, the Declaration of Independence continues to provide inspiration to us all and we can proudly share its lasting legacy with our new fellow American citizens," remarked Chief Judge Tydingco-Gatewood.

To further encourage the newly naturalized citizens to fully exercise their rights, the Court will also host a Citizenship Outreach Program. Immediately after the naturalization ceremony, the new citizens may register to vote and apply for a U.S. passport, provided they have appropriate supporting documentation for the application. Representatives from the Guam Election Commission and the Guam Passport Office will be present after the ceremony to assist these new citizens with any questions.