



CHAMBER OF  
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## District Court of Guam

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### **DISTRICT COURT OF GUAM NATURALIZATION CEREMONY**

In commemoration of Law Week, the District Court of Guam will welcome 52 new citizens to the United States of America. These new citizens, who hail from the People's Republic of China, Philippines, South Korea, Palau, Russia, Taiwan, Switzerland, and France, will take their oaths of citizenship in a special Law Day Ceremony to be held at the court on Friday, April 29, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. Conducting the naturalization ceremony during Law Week will give a special significance to an already important event.

This special event is a highlight of Guam's Law Week Celebration, which is once again cosponsored by the District Court of Guam, the Judiciary of Guam, and the Guam Bar Association. Law Day, celebrated nationwide on May 1 each year, was established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower as "a day of national dedication to the principles of government under law." The Law Day 2011 theme, "The Legacy of John Adams: From Boston to Guantanamo," provides the opportunity to celebrate the important legacy of the first American lawyer-president and one of our nation's greatest founders, John Adams, and to explore the historical and contemporary role of lawyers in defending the rights of the accused.

The keynote speaker during the ceremony will be Chief Justice F. Philip Carbullido of the Judiciary of Guam. Chief Justice Carbullido took the bench as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Guam in October of 2000. Three years later, in January 2003, he was elected Chief Justice, a position he held until January 2008. He assumed this position again this year in January 2011.

The National Anthem and Guam Hymn will be sung by Master Sergeant Lisa A.C. Taijeron, from the Guam National Guard Counterdrug Task Force.

This year's Law Week celebration at the District Court will also allow the newly naturalized citizens to fully exercise their rights, as the court will host a Citizenship Outreach Program for these citizens. Immediately after the naturalization ceremony, these new citizens will be able to register to vote, apply for a U.S. passport and Social Security number provided they have appropriate supporting documentation for the application. Representatives from these agencies will be present after the ceremony to assist these new citizens with any questions, as will a variety of military recruiters.

*"We're very happy to welcome these new citizens during Law Week. Most of them struggled for many years to see this moment." said Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood. "We wish them the best, and we hope that this event starts them on their way to accomplish much and to contribute greatly as new citizens of our island and nation."*