



District Court of Guam

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CHAMBER OF
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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

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DISTRICT COURT OF GUAM NATURALIZATION CEREMONY Court Celebrates Thanksgiving Day

On Wednesday, November 25, 2020, at 9:30 a.m., the District Court of Guam will proudly host a special Thanksgiving Day Naturalization Ceremony. Thanksgiving Day has been celebrated for more than two centuries by individual colonies and states after the first Thanksgiving celebration took place in 1621 when the Plymouth Colonists and Wampanoag Native Americans shared an autumn harvest feast. In 1863, at the height of the Civil War, in a proclamation by President Abraham Lincoln entreating all Americans to ask God to “commend to his tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife” and to “heal the wounds of the nation,” Thanksgiving Day became a national holiday. Today, Thanksgiving Day is a traditional celebration with friends and family to give thanks for the year’s blessings and is a symbol of intercultural peace, America’s opportunity for newcomers, and the sanctity of home and family.

In line with COVID-19 social distancing guidelines implemented by the Government of Guam, the Naturalization Ceremony will take place in front of the courthouse, where the soon-to be citizens will take their oath to bear faith and allegiance to our great nation. Chief Judge Tydingco-Gatewood states: “As we give thanks for the year’s blessings, we remember the struggles this year has brought and the journey each individual has taken to get to this day, wishing them well on their future endeavors as American citizens.”