

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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IN RE:
CORONAVIRUS/COVID-19 PANDEMIC

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
NO. 2020-07**

NATURALIZATIONS UNDER THE EXIGENT
CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED BY COVID-19

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ROSLYNN R. MAUSKOPF, Chief Judge.

Pursuant to Title 8 of United States Code § 1421(b)(1)(B), Federal Judges in the Eastern District of New York have the exclusive authority to administer the oath of allegiance to persons seeking to become naturalized citizens of the United States. This exclusive authority to administer the oath applies only during the 45-day period beginning on the date on which the Attorney General certifies to the Court that an applicant is eligible for naturalization. 8 U.S.C. § 1421(b)(3)(A).

The President of the United States has declared a national emergency, and the Governor of New York has banned mass gatherings throughout the state in response to the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Moreover, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the World Health Organization, and other public health authorities have advised taking precautions to reduce the possibility of exposure to the virus and slow the spread of the disease.

Therefore, in order to protect public health and the health of and safety of all applicants, Court personnel, and visitors to the Court, and reduce travel, the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York is hereby suspending all naturalization proceedings within this District for a period of 45 days from the date of this Order, or until further order of the Court.

This temporary suspension of naturalization proceedings will not divest the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York of its exclusive authority to administer the oath of allegiance to persons seeking to become naturalized citizens in this District. *See* 8 U.S.C. § 1421(b)(3)(A).

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED, that effective March 16, 2020, no naturalization proceedings shall be held in the Eastern District of New York for 45 days from the date of this Order, unless otherwise ordered by this Court.

SO ORDERED.

/s

Dated: Brooklyn, New York
March 16, 2020

ROSLYNN R. MAUSKOPF
Chief Judge