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**The U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York
Will Hold a Special Naturalization Ceremony**

CENTRAL ISLIP – On September 17, 2018, the Judges of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York (“EDNY”), in partnership with the Eastern District of New York Chapter of the Federal Bar Association (“FBA”) and the FBA Law Student Division from St. John’s University Law School, will host the Third Annual Special Naturalization Ceremony in celebration of Constitution Day. The theme for this year’s ceremony is “Federal Courts – Guardians of the Constitution.” The ceremony will be held at Sagamore Hill National Historic Site, the home of Theodore Roosevelt from 1885 to 1919. Fifty candidates for citizenship and their families have been invited to attend and one of our naturalization candidates will describe the personal path to citizenship during what is certain to be a memorable ceremony.

We are privileged to announce that this year’s keynote speaker for the program is the Hon. Robert A. Katzmann, Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. In 2014, Chief Judge Katzmann launched a Circuit-wide civic education initiative entitled “Justice for All: Courts and the Community.” Chief Judge Katzmann will highlight the cherished freedoms afforded to citizens by our Constitution, the wonderful opportunities America provides to all, as well as the importance of ensuring that courts are accessible, independent and effective public institutions. Participants in the ceremony will also include federal judges from the Eastern District of New York, the Superintendent of Sagamore Hill, the FBA’s National Civics Coordinator, the League of Women Voters, and the entire eighth grade of South Woods Middle School in Syosset.

Special naturalization ceremonies are once again being held in federal courts across the country on September 17 to commemorate Constitution and Citizenship Day, which recognizes the signing of the United States Constitution in 1787 and celebrates those who are becoming U.S. citizens. Magistrate Judge Kathleen Tomlinson, who is a member of Chief Judge Katzmann’s Committee on Civic Education and Public Engagement as well as the Board of the FBA, expressed her joy in hosting one of the ceremonies. “It is an honor to witness firsthand the final step in the path to citizenship as immigrants fulfill their dream of taking the oath to become citizens of this great country.”

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