

U.S. District Court, Southern District of Ohio
Naturalization Ceremony
Frequently Asked Questions

What should I bring to the ceremony?

1. The **Notice of Naturalization Oath Ceremony** Form N-445.
2. Your **green card** (current or expired) and/or any work authorization permits.
3. A **Photo ID** is required to enter the Courthouse for all **Petitioners & Guests**. All individuals entering the building will be screened by Court Security Officers.

What time should I arrive and how long will the ceremony last?

Please report to the location at the time listed on your notice. Petitioners are called in advance of the ceremony start time for mandatory processing which may last more than one hour. Please prepare to be at the ceremony location for several hours.

May a guest attend the ceremony with me?

Yes. Ceremony venues vary and guest seating may be limited to an alternate/overflow area. An adult, other than the petitioner, must accompany minor children at all times. Childcare is not provided.

May I bring an interpreter?

Yes. Petitioners are permitted to bring an Interpreter.

Are cell phones permitted?

Yes. Cell phones are permitted; but must be silenced during the ceremony and in Courtrooms. Filming is not permitted during Columbus naturalization ceremonies.

Is parking available?

Free parking is **NOT** available at the Courthouse. There are several parking garages within the surrounding area that charge varying fees.

Can I take pictures?

Taking pictures after the ceremony is permitted. You will be advised on the day of the ceremony regarding picture taking. Filming is not permitted during Columbus naturalization ceremonies.

Obtaining Naturalization Records

The Court is unable to provide a copy of your naturalization certificate or any other documentation that certifies your citizenship. Please contact the Citizenship & Immigration Service office that issued the certificate or visit their website for form N-565.

Obtaining a Copy of Name Change Form

Naturalization records prior to 1992 are maintained by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Please contact NARA via email at chicago.archive@nara.gov or via telephone at (733-948-9001) for additional information. All naturalization records after 1992 are maintained by the USCIS. For additional information, visit USCIS at www.uscis.gov or call (800) 375-5283.



Office of the Clerk

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Southern District of Ohio

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