


June 3 2020

David J. Bradley, Clerk of Court

By Deputy Clerk 

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
HOUSTON AND GALVESTON DIVISIONS

IN RE: TEMPORARY WAIVER §  
OF EXCLUSIVE AUTHORITY § SPECIAL ORDER H-2020-17  
TO ADMINISTER THE OATH OF §  
ALLEGIANCE TO NEW CITIZENS §

Because postponement of judicial naturalization oath of allegiance ceremonies has been necessitated due to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is notified that the court's exclusive authority to administer the oath of allegiance to new citizens under 8 U.S.C. § 1421(b)(1)(B) is temporarily waived. Upon written notice to the court, the USCIS Houston Field Office may administer the oath of allegiance administratively to those applicants eligible for naturalization who have exceeded a 45-day waiting period.

This Order will remain in effect until further order of the court.

Signed this 3rd day of June, 2020



---

LEE H. ROSENTHAL  
CHIEF JUDGE