



# Media Advisory

July 14, 2016

## **USCIS to Naturalize 499 Candidates at Yale University**

*Agency will also recognize Dr. Hesung Chun Koh as an Outstanding American by Choice*

**NEW HAVEN, Conn.** —U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will conduct a special naturalization ceremony at Yale University on Tuesday, July 19. USCIS Hartford Field Office Director Nieves Cardinale will present 499 candidates to the United States District Court for the District of Connecticut. The Honorable Joan G. Margolis, United States Magistrate Judge, will administer the Oath of Allegiance to the new citizens.

Prior to the naturalization ceremony, Secretary and Vice President for Student Life, Yale University, Kimberly M. Goff-Crews will provide welcoming remarks, followed by USCIS Chief of Staff Juliet K. Choi who will present Outstanding American by Choice recognition to Dr. Hesung Chun Koh. Keynote and congratulatory remarks to the new citizens and their guests will be made by Deirdre M. Daly, U.S. Attorney for the District of Connecticut and U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal, respectively.

The Outstanding American by Choice recognition is bestowed upon naturalized citizens who have made significant contributions to their community and their adopted country – through civic participation, professional achievement, and responsible citizenship.

Dr. Hesung Chun Koh co-founded the East Rock Institute of New Haven, Conn., the nation's first institution dedicated to Korean and Korean Diaspora culture. With over 60 years dedicated to ERI, she has mentored countless students and parents from both Korean and non-Korean universities and continues to do so. She dedicated her professional life to fostering cross-cultural understanding between East and West and was instrumental in laying the groundwork for Korean studies in the United States. Retiring from a scholarly career spanning 50 years, 24 years at Yale University, Dr. Koh continues to build bridges for cultural engagement.

The naturalization candidates originate from the following 80 countries: Albania, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, People's Republic of China, Colombia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Korea, Kosovo, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Lithuania, Mali, Mexico, Moldova, Montenegro, Morocco, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, St. Lucia, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Venezuela, and Vietnam.



**U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services**

*Office of Communications*

USCIS is asking new citizens and their families and friends to share the experiences and photos from their ceremony via social media using the hashtag #newUSCitizen. For more information about USCIS visit [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov).

**WHO:** Richard Blumenthal, U.S. Senator  
Deirdre M. Daly, U.S. Attorney for the District of Connecticut  
Juliet K. Choi, Chief of Staff, USCIS  
The Honorable Joan G. Margolis, Magistrate Judge , U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut  
Nieves Cardinale, Hartford Field Office Director USCIS  
Dr. Hesung Chun Koh, ABC Recipient  
Kimberly M. Goff-Crews, Secretary and Vice President for Student Life, Yale University

**WHEN:** Tuesday, July 19, 10:00 a.m.

**WHERE:** Yale University – Woolsey Hall  
500 College Street  
New Haven, Conn. 06511

**CONTACT:** Anita Rios Moore, Public Affairs Officer USCIS, at 202.604.9832 or [anita.r.moore@uscis.dhs.gov](mailto:anita.r.moore@uscis.dhs.gov) or @USCISMediaVT

**NOTE:** For planning purposes, media attending the ceremony are requested to RSVP to [anita.r.moore@uscis.dhs.gov](mailto:anita.r.moore@uscis.dhs.gov) by close of business, Monday, July 18.

**Press may use the main entrance.**

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