

PRESS RELEASE

For Release: Sept. 13, 2016

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Justice Solomon to Preside over Burlington Vicinage Naturalization Ceremony

Supreme Court Associate Justice Lee A. Solomon and Assignment Judge Ronald E. Bookbinder will preside over a naturalization ceremony and administer the Oath of Allegiance to 25 foreign-born residents of Burlington County this week.

The ceremony, part of the vicinage's celebration of Constitution Week, will be held Thursday, Sept. 15 at 10 a.m. in the historic Olde Courthouse, 120 High St., Mount Holly. The applicants for citizenship come from 15 countries.

"We are honored to have Justice Solomon join us to celebrate this event and we're proud to bring to our newest fellow Americans the benefits and honor of American citizenship," Bookbinder said.

The Pemberton Township High School JROTC will open the ceremony by presenting the colors. Students from Rancocas Valley High School will sing the national anthem and fifth grade students from Sacred Heart Elementary School will recite the preamble to the U.S. Constitution.

Remarks will be delivered by Justice Solomon; Ya-Mei Chen, field officer director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services; Nirum Kumaresan of the Willingboro-Burlington Chapter of the New Jersey Orators; Elizabeth Garcia, president of the Burlington Bar Association; and Shereen Chen, attorney from the law firm of Hyland Levin.

This year marks the 229th anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution.

In conjunction with Constitution Day, the vicinage also is celebrating Juror Appreciation Week. Judge Bookbinder will mark the start of the week's activities by signing a proclamation declaring Constitution and Citizenship Day and Constitution and Juror Appreciation Week 2016.

Juror Appreciation Week recognizes citizens who have served on juries and sends a positive message to the public on why jury duty matters.

"We thank our jurors for their indispensable service as they participate in our system of justice," Bookbinder said.

Jurors participating in petit and grand juries during Juror Appreciation Week will be provided special refreshments and small gifts of appreciation by the Burlington County Bar Foundation.

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