

A Great Day to Become an American

By: Seth Bowe, Deputy in Charge, Jacksonville Division

On June 15, 2023, the Honorable Jacob A. Brown presided over a Naturalization Ceremony in the Bryan J. Simpson Federal Courthouse in Jacksonville. Judge Brown swore in 46 new citizens hailing from 24 different countries. A presentation of colors by Boy Scout Troop 351, and an amazing rendition of our national Anthem by Ms. Teneese Williams, had all in attendance excited to celebrate the new citizens. Assistant U.S. Attorney Collette Cunningham introduced the principal speaker of the ceremony, Mr. Juan Carlos Gonzalez. Mr. Gonzalez, an immigrant from Cuba, shared his story of immigrating to the United States in the 1990's.

With tears in everyone's eyes, the new citizens performed their first Pledge of Allegiance and reflected, while listening to America the Beautiful, that they are now American citizens. Court concluded with Judge Brown taking a photo with each new citizen to commemorate this great achievement.



Judge Jacob Brown
and
AUSA Cunningham



Ms. Teneese Williams



Mr. Juan Carlos



New Citizens