



U.S. Department of Justice
Executive Office for Immigration Review
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NEWS RELEASE

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Immigration Judge Takes Oath of Office In San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. – Robert Yeargin was sworn in today as an Immigration Judge during an investiture ceremony at 2 p.m., in the San Francisco Immigration Court, Ceremonial Courtroom, 550 Kearny Street, 7th Floor, San Francisco, Calif. Chief Immigration Judge Michael J. Creppy, from the Executive Office for Immigration Review in Falls Church, Va., administered the oath of office.

He joins the ranks of more than 200 Immigration Judges located in 52 Immigration Courts throughout the nation. Immigration Judges are responsible for conducting formal administrative proceedings to determine whether foreign-born individuals who are charged with violations of federal immigration law should be removed from the United States or may be granted relief from removal. Immigration Judges decide each case independently and their decisions are final unless appealed or certified to the Board of Immigration Appeals. In the past year, Immigration Judges completed more than 250,000 such proceedings. They are also authorized to administer oaths of citizenship to candidates for naturalization.

Judge Yeargin was appointed Immigration Judge in January 2002. Prior to his appointment to the Immigration Court in San Francisco, Judge Yeargin served as an Immigration Judge in the Detroit Immigration Court from January 2002 until July 2002. He received his B.A. (*cum laude*) in 1971 from Bellarmine College in Louisville, Ky., and received his J.D. in 1981 from Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, D.C. Prior to his appointment as an Immigration Judge, he worked for the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) in various capacities from January 1988 to January 2002: From May 1995 to January 2002, Judge Yeargin served as a special assistant U.S. attorney for the Northern District of California in San Francisco. During this time, he served as an instructor at the Department of Justice's National Advocacy Institute in Columbia, S.C. From November 1992 to May 1995, he served as INS District Counsel in Arlington, Va., and from January 1988 to November 1992, he served as an INS trial attorney in San Francisco. Judge Yeargin worked as Deputy City Attorney for the City of Las Vegas from September 1983 to January 1988. He is a member of the Nevada and District of Columbia Bars.

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The Executive Office for Immigration Review, a component of the Department of Justice, is responsible for providing due process to individuals who are charged with immigration law violations. The agency also includes the Board of Immigration Appeals to hear appeals of Immigration Judge decisions and the Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer to handle employment-related immigration matters.

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