

United States District Court  
District of New Mexico



Naturalization Proceedings

**The Honorable William P. Johnson**  
**Chief United States District Judge**  
**Presiding**

Santa Fe Community Convention Center  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Friday, September 16, 2022  
Ceremony - 10:00 A.M.



*The Hon. William P. Johnson  
Chief U.S. District Judge*

## The Honorable William P. Johnson

U. S. District Judge William P. Johnson was born and raised in Roanoke, Virginia. He attended college at the Virginia Military Institute where he earned his B.A. degree in 1981. He accepted a reserve commission in the United States Army Reserve and then attended law school at Washington & Lee University where he earned his J.D. degree in 1985.

Judge Johnson started practicing law in Houston, Texas. In 1986, he moved to Roswell, New Mexico where he was a civil litigation attorney until 1995, when he became a state district judge for the 5th Judicial District in Chaves, Eddy and Lea Counties, New Mexico.

In August of 2001, President George W. Bush nominated Judge Johnson to fill a vacancy on the federal district court here in New Mexico and in December of 2001, the United States Senate confirmed Judge Johnson's nomination to the federal bench. Although Judge Johnson's duty station is in Albuquerque, since joining the federal court he has spent a considerable amount of time in Las Cruces presiding over border related cases. Additionally, Judge Johnson has sat by designation on the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit and has been designated to preside over cases in the U.S. District Courts for the Districts of Wyoming, Utah, Kansas, Colorado, Western Oklahoma, Eastern Oklahoma and Northern Oklahoma.

On February 7, 2018, Judge Johnson was appointed Chief Judge for the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico.

## John J. Chavez

John J. Chavez is a proud native to New Mexico. John has traced his roots to his 5<sup>th</sup> great grandfather coming to American from Ireland in 1732. John attended New Mexico State University in which he obtained his Bachelor of Arts in Economics, a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance, and a Master of Business Administration with a concentration in Regulatory Economics.



*John J. Chavez*

John has a successful career in New Mexico business. He is currently the Managing Director at New Mexico Start Up Factory. The NM Start Up Factory has spun off into fourteen companies with technology licensed with multiple technology partners. These companies included products to be sold in markets including: bio-markers, therapeutics, materials, agtech and communications.

He is dedicated to providing strong business opportunities to our state and residents. Mr. Chavez' impact on New Mexico's business opportunities is significant to local business leaders, New Mexico Business Weekly has awarded him CEO of the Year and he is listed in New Mexico's Top Ten Rainmaker Power Brokers by New Mexico Business Weekly.

Mr. Chavez's public service includes appointment and service as Cabinet Secretary of the New Mexico Taxation Department. Election as the President of the Federation of Tax Administrators and as the President of the Multi-State Tax Compact. He currently serves as the tax administrator and district manager for the 19 Pueblos District in Albuquerque.

While John enjoys his career, he also enjoys the great New Mexico weather and taking his dog for walks in the bosque.



## PROGRAM

1. **Deputy Clerk Opens Court**
2. **Presentation of Colors**  
Vietnam Veterans of America  
Northern New Mexico Chapter #996
3. **Song: “National Anthem”**  
Performed by: Dr. Karen Hall
4. **Opening Remarks**  
The Honorable William P. Johnson  
Chief United States District Judge
5. **Introduction of:**
  - Special Guests & Civic Groups
  - U. S. Citizenship & Immigration Services Staff
  - Clerk’s Office Staff
6. **Introduction of Applicants by Country**
7. **Approval of Order Granting Name Changes**
8. **Oath of Allegiance**
9. **Pledge of Allegiance**



10. **Song: This Land is Your Land**  
Performed by: Dr. Karen Hall
11. **Introduction of Guest Speaker**
12. **Address By: John J. Chavez**
13. **Taped Message from:**  
Joe Biden, President of the United States
14. **Taped Song: “America the Beautiful”**
15. **Closing Remarks**
16. **Court in Recess**



\*Soprano Karen Hall is an active performer, teacher and writer. Dr. Hall received her Doctorate from Columbia University, Teachers College. She is five-time Metropolitan Opera Regional Finalist and has won awards from the Texas Federation of Music Clubs, the Vocal Arts Foundation in San Francisco, and the Eleanor Anderson Lieber Awards in Portland, Oregon.

Currently she is the Executive Director of Los Alamos Arts Council, the United States Special Projects Liaison for Tchaikovsky Association in Moscow and teaches voice and piano in her private studio Songwerks in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Additionally, she is the author of *So You Want to Sing Music Theater*, a voice pedagogy project jointly sponsored by NATS and Roman & Littlefield Publishers, and the editor of 2 additional books included in the project--*So You Want to Sing Rock 'n' Roll* and *So You Want to Sing Jazz*.




**STAR SPANGLED BANNER**  
**(National Anthem)**  
**By Francis Scott Key**

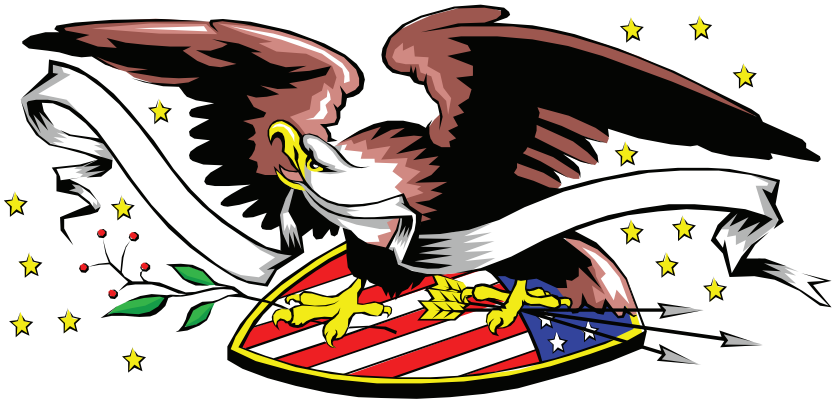
Oh! Say can you see, by the dawn's early light,  
What so proudly we hailed, at the twilight's last gleaming

Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous  
fight,  
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming

And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,  
gave proof through the night, that our flag was still there

O say, does that Star Spangled Banner yet wave,  
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave





## OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

I HEREBY DECLARE, ON OATH, THAT I ABSOLUTELY AND ENTIRELY RENOUNCE AND ABJURE ALL ALLEGIANCE AND FIDELITY TO ANY FOREIGN PRINCE, OR POTENTATE, STATE OR SOVEREIGNTY, OF WHOM OR WHICH, I HAVE HERETOFORE BEEN A SUBJECT OR CITIZEN. THAT I WILL SUPPORT AND DEFEND THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AGAINST ALL ENEMIES, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC; THAT I WILL BEAR TRUE FAITH AND ALLEGIANCE TO THE SAME. THAT I WILL BEAR ARMS, ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES, WHEN REQUIRED BY THE LAW; THAT I WILL PERFORM NONCOMBATANT SERVICE IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES WHEN REQUIRED BY THE LAW. THAT I WILL PERFORM WORK OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE UNDER CIVIL DIRECTION WHEN REQUIRED BY THE LAW; AND THAT I TAKE THIS OBLIGATION FREELY, WITHOUT ANY MENTAL RESERVATION OR PURPOSE OF EVASION, SO HELP ME GOD!



## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.





**THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND**  
**by Woody Guthrie**

This land is your land, this land is my land,  
From California, to the New York Island  
From the Redwood Forest, to the gulf stream waters,  
This land was made for you and me

As I went walking, that ribbon of highway,  
I saw above me, that endless skyway  
I saw below me, that golden valley,  
This land was made for you and me

I roamed and I rambled, and I followed my footsteps,  
To the sparkling sands, of her diamond deserts  
And all around me, a voice was sounding,  
This land was made for you and me

## AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL

Words by Katherine Lee Bates

Music by Samuel Ward



O Beautiful, for spacious skies, for  
amber waves of grain  
For purple mountain majesties, above the fruited plain  
America, America, God shed His grace on thee,  
and crown thy good, with brotherhood, from sea to shining sea

O Beautiful, for pilgrim feet whose stern impassioned stress  
A thoroughfare for freedom beat across the wilderness  
America, America, God mend thine every flaw  
Confirm thy soul in self control, thy liberty in law

O Beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife  
Who more than self their country loved and mercy more than life  
America, America may God thy gold refine  
Till all success be nobleness and every gain divine

O Beautiful, for patriot dream, that sees beyond the years  
Thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears  
America, America, God shed his grace on thee,  
And crown thy good, with brotherhood, from sea to shining sea

# Acknowledgements

**We would like to acknowledge:**

**Dr. Karen Hall** for singing the *National Anthem* and *This Land is your Land*.

**Vietnam Veterans of America, Northern New Mexico Chapter #996**, for their presentation of the Colors:

Pete Chavez  
Henry Griego  
Jake Lopez  
Lisa Lopez  
Jerry L. Martinez



## The New Colossus

Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,  
With conquering limbs astride from land to land;  
Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand  
A mighty woman with a torch  
Whose flame is imprisoned lightning,  
And her name Mother of Exiles.

From her beacon-hand glows  
World-wide welcome;  
Her mild eyes command the air-bridged harbor  
That twin cities frame.  
“Keep ancient lands your storied pomp!”  
Cries she with silent lips.

“Give me your tired, your poor,  
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,  
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.  
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,  
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!”

Emma Lazarus (1849-1887)

