

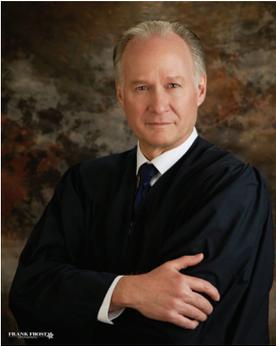
## Naturalization Proceedings



**The Honorable Jerry H. Ritter**  
**United States Magistrate Judge**  
**Presiding**

Albuquerque Convention Center  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Friday, May 27, 2022  
Ceremony - 10:00 A.M.



*The Hon. Jerry H. Ritter  
U.S. Magistrate Judge*

## **The Hon. Jerry Ritter**

Jerry H. Ritter is a United States Magistrate Judge for the U.S. District of New Mexico since September 5, 2017. He was a District Judge for New Mexico's Twelfth Judicial District (Otero and Lincoln Counties) from 1997 to 2017 and served six years as Chief Judge.

Judge Ritter graduated from New Mexico State University in 1983 and from the University of New Mexico School of Law in 1987. From 1997 to 1992, he practiced law in Anchorage, Alaska, and was the first general counsel for Ahtna, Inc., an Alaska Native Regional Corporation. In 1992, he returned to New Mexico and was in private practice until 1994 when he became an Assistant District Attorney for the Twelfth Judicial District.

During his tenure on the New Mexico trial bench, Judge Ritter served on the New Mexico Judicial Standards Commission for eight years, on the New Mexico Sentencing Commission since its creation, on the statewide Chief Judges' Council Budget Committee, first as a rural court representative and later as chair, as a New Mexico delegate to the American Bar Association's National Conference of State Trial Judges, and on other court committees.

Judge Ritter is married with six adult children.

## Arslan Umarov

Arslan Umarov was born in Uzbekistan and fled to the United States in the face of political persecution. New Mexico is his adopted home.

In many former Soviet republics, like Uzbekistan, free speech is suppressed and individualism is discouraged. Arslan's father, Sanjar Umarov, was imprisoned for four years by former Uzbek dictator Islam Karimov for speaking out against the well-publicized massacre in the Ferghana Valley in 2005 and lack of liberty in the country. Arslan, his family, and friends had to travel between the United States, Uzbekistan, Russia, and other countries to rally politicians such as late Senator McCain and Rep. Tom Lantos, human rights organizations, lawyers, and journalists to pressure Karimov. After four years, Sanjar was freed and allowed to join his family in the United States.



*Arslan Umarov*

The hardships his family and other countrymen faced inspired Arslan to go to law school and continue helping others. Arslan graduated cum laude from the University of Memphis with a degree in International Business. He got his law degree from the Texas Tech Law School in 2011 and was naturalized that same year. He has made being an advocate part of his life.

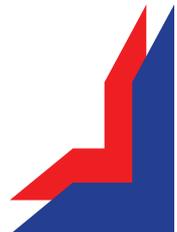
Outside of his work, Arslan has a personal interest in promoting education, economic development, and the rule of law. He volunteers as a board member for Voz Collegiate Preparatory Charter School based in Albuquerque's International District. Arslan is married and has two beautiful girls.



## PROGRAM

1. Deputy Clerk Opens Court
2. Posting of Colors  
Valencia High School JROTC
3. Song: “National Anthem”  
Performed by: The New MexiChords
4. Opening Remarks  
The Honorable Jerry Ritter  
United States Magistrate Judge
5. Introduction of Special Guests  
& Civic Groups
6. Introduction of Applicants by Country
7. Approval of Order Granting Name Changes
8. Oath of Allegiance
9. Pledge of Allegiance
10. Song: “God Bless America”  
Performed by: The New Mexichords

*Special Thanks to the New MexiChords  
under the direction of Jamie Arrington.*





11. Introduction of Guest Speaker
12. Address by: Arslan Umarov, Esq.
13. Taped Message  
The President of the United States
14. Song: “America the Beautiful”  
Performed by: Gabriele Elli
15. Closing Remarks
16. Court in Recess



*Gabriele Elli was born in Monza, Northern Italy. After living in Italy for 34 years, he moved to the US and has been living with his wife, Linda in New Mexico for 15 years.*

*Two of his passions are singing and helping with the conservation of species in New Mexico and other States.*

*“For the last few years I have wanted to become an American citizen, and right now I am very honored and privileged to make it true!” GE*

**STAR SPANGLED BANNER**  
**(National Anthem)**

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, thro' 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 thro' the night, that our flag was still there

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





## OATH OF CITIZENSHIP

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.



## God Bless America

By Irving Berlin

God bless America,  
Land that I love,  
Stand beside her and guide her  
Thru the night with a light from above;

From the mountains, to the prairies,  
To the oceans white with foam,  
God bless America,  
My home, sweet home.  
God bless America,  
My home, sweet home.



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.



Pete V. Domenici Courthouse, Albuquerque



U.S. Historic Courthouse, Albuquerque



Santiago E. Campos Courthouse, Santa Fe



U.S. Courthouse, Las Cruces

## 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)

