

## **LETTER OF AGREEMENT**

### **ON INITIATIVES TO PROMOTE CITIZENSHIP AWARENESS, EDUCATION, OUTREACH, AND CIVIC PARTICIPATION IN THE CITY OF CHICAGO**

**BETWEEN**

**THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO**

**AND**

**U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES**

This Letter of Agreement (“LOA”) is entered into by and between the Office of the Mayor (“Office of the Mayor”) of the City of Chicago, an Illinois municipal corporation (the “City”), and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (“USCIS”) (hereinafter, “Parties”) to promote immigrant integration through citizenship awareness, education, outreach, and civic participation.

**WHEREAS**, the United States of America is a nation of immigrants;

**WHEREAS**, more than 2.7 million people live in the City of Chicago, 21 percent of whom are immigrants;

**WHEREAS**, approximately 370,000 individuals in Illinois are currently eligible to apply for U.S. citizenship and since 2002, nearly 30,000 permanent residents have become U.S. citizens each year in the Chicago area, representing more than 150 countries of origin;

**WHEREAS**, the Parties are committed to the ideals of a robust and inclusive democracy and support the principle that America gains when immigrants understand the naturalization process, are aware of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship, learn English, and are afforded expanded opportunities for civic participation;

**WHEREAS**, immigrant integration is a dynamic two-way process that requires not only immigrants becoming vested members of our communities, but also requires communities to welcome and provide tools that help new immigrants succeed.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AGREED THAT:**

- I. The Parties will distribute prepared materials on the naturalization process and the Unauthorized Practice of Immigration Law to residents of the City of Chicago through the Parties' websites and at City facilities selected by the City.
- II. The Parties will collaborate to promote awareness of the rights, responsibilities, and importance of U.S. citizenship to residents of the City of Chicago and recognize the importance and effectiveness of the Internet for disseminating information. USCIS will provide the Office of the Mayor with information on USCIS web-based resources for the City of Chicago's website.
- III. The Parties will work together to the extent practicable—with the support of local community-based organizations—to plan, publicize, and host naturalization information sessions.
- IV. The Parties will celebrate citizenship by holding naturalization ceremonies at prominent venues in the City of Chicago.
- V. The Parties will engage with the business community to support citizenship education and awareness efforts and provide foreign entrepreneurs the information necessary to start and sustain businesses in the City of Chicago.
- VI. The Parties will continue to disseminate citizenship preparation materials and resources to Chicago Public Library branches and will provide relevant training on citizenship and the naturalization process to public librarians in Chicago.
- VII. The Parties will identify and implement additional measures to increase awareness of citizenship rights, responsibilities, and the naturalization process among eligible residents in the City of Chicago.
- VIII. The Parties will work together to track and evaluate the success of these efforts as appropriate.
- IX. The Parties recognize that it may be necessary to provide information on other USCIS programs and initiatives. Therefore, if the Parties mutually agree there is a need, the Parties will distribute information on such relevant topics to residents of the City of Chicago through existing communication channels, the Parties' websites, and at City facilities selected by the City.
- X. Usage of Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Visual Identities:

The term "DHS Visual Identities" as used in this agreement means the DHS or DHS component name, initials, seal, insignia, trademark or certification marks of DHS or any DHS component, or any combination, variation, or

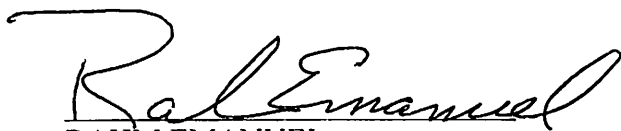
colorable imitation of them alone or in combination with other words used in a manner reasonably calculated to convey the impression of affiliation, connection, or endorsement by DHS or any DHS component. The Office of the Mayor of the City of Chicago and the Chicago Public Library are each granted permission to use DHS Visual Identities as provided by the Office of Citizenship.

- i. Usage of the DHS Visual Identities must be in compliance with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Seal and Signature Usage Guidelines and Trademark Usage Terms. Depiction of the DHS Visual Identities must maintain the integrity of the identities as distributed and marketed by the Department of Homeland Security.
- ii. To ensure that the DHS Visual Identities are displayed in conformity with the usage guidelines, DHS shall review the final rough cut and/or pre-press proof of all recorded and printed materials and may require modification of any such material.

This LOA is intended to reflect the intentions of the Parties to work in partnership and to put forward their best efforts to cooperate in the respects described. The Parties will convene to plan and assess progress on a regular basis. This LOA does not create any enforceable legal obligation on either Party. The Parties agree that (a) the use of City facilities is subject to City policies and to applicable legal requirements, and (b) no official, employee, or elected or appointed representative of either of the Parties may be held personally liable for any breach of a provision of this LOA.

This LOA will remain in effect for three (3) years from the date of signature or until terminated by mutual agreement or by either Party upon thirty (30) days advance written notice to the other Party at the address indicated below the signatures to this LOA.

This LOA is effective upon the date of the last signature of the Parties.



RAHM EMANUEL  
Mayor  
City of Chicago



LEÓN RODRIGUEZ  
Director  
USCIS

8/17/15  
Date

7/21/15  
Date

<b>City of Chicago Address</b>	<b>USCIS Address</b>
<p>Office of New Americans Office of the Mayor 121 North LaSalle Street, Room 500 Chicago, IL 60602 Attention: Director</p> <p>And:</p> <p>City of Chicago Law Department 121 North LaSalle Street, Room 600 Chicago, IL 60602 Attention: Corporation Counsel</p>	<p>Office of Citizenship 20 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 5200 Washington, DC 20529</p>