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New Citizens to Start ‘New’ Life at Central Library on June 30

Memphis, Tenn. – Safety. Asylum. A new life. Several reasons exist why more than 80 candidates and their families will gather for a **Naturalization Ceremony** at the **Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library** (3030 Poplar Ave.) at **11 a.m., Friday, June 30, 2017**. Representing nearly 50 countries worldwide, the diverse group of candidates will become naturalized U.S. citizens or will take the Oath of Allegiance for the first time at this exclusive program, in which **Director of Libraries Keenon McCloy** will serve as **keynote speaker**.

Hosted in partnership with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and the Daughters of the American Revolution, this Naturalization Ceremony will also offer an informational fair for citizens who need help integrating into mainstream society. A group of agencies will attend the fair to aid in their transition, like Latino Memphis, Shelby County Election Commission (voter registration), Friends of the Library, LINC / 2-1-1, the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) and others.

“Becoming a U.S. citizen creates a sense of belonging, equality and attachment to this nation. They (New citizens) will be empowered to fully exercise their rights, afforded equal opportunities, and welcomed to participate in this democratic society,” said Adult Services Coordinator Wang-Ying Glasgow, who is also a naturalized citizen. “We are excited and honored to host candidates from all over the world, as we celebrate this momentous occasion just before Independence Day.”

For more information about the Naturalization Ceremony at the Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library, call (901) 415-2709.

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ABOUT MEMPHIS PUBLIC LIBRARIES’ FDLP

Memphis Public Libraries have been a Selective Federal Depository Library since 1896, offering a vast array of historical and current U.S. government publications and resources. Nearly 700,000 federal publications are housed at Memphis Public Libraries, including over 17,000 electronic publications. The collection, which is available in English, Spanish and other languages, includes information about citizenship, social security, student loans, income taxes and disaster preparedness, along with other promotional material.