425 Maple Lane Shoreview, MN 55126 March 17, 2007

Director, Regulatory Management Division US Citizenship and Immigration Services Department of Homeland Security 111 Massachusetts Ave. NW, 3rd floor Washington DC 20529

Dear Director:

Please do not raise the fees for immigrants who are making applications related to citizenship, green cards, and citizenship for family members. Instead, if more funds are needed to process the applications, please seek additional funding from Congress.

I teach adult immigrants English and Citizenship in the Minneapolis School District. Most of my students work hard at low paying jobs and try to learn English on the side. They do not have a lot of skills and probably will never have a well-paying job. But our economy depends on their hard work, and their children will someday be fine and contributing citizens of our society. To raise the fees so much will put a tremendous burden on these low income working families as they try to fulfill their dream of becoming U.S. citizens.

If we admit legal immigrants and refugees into the United States, we should make acquiring citizenship doable and affordable. They need to know how to read, write, and speak English. They need to know about U.S. history, government, and geography. But they shouldn't need to be rich to become a citizen. That is <u>not</u> what the United States is about.

Please reject the proposed increase in fees.

Sincerely,

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Sharon H. Reichenbach