Supporting Statement

Application for Certificate of Citizenship

(Form N-600)

OMB No. 1615 - 0057

A. Justification:

- 1. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) uses the information collected on the Form N-600 to determine whether the applicant meets citizenship eligibility requirements and conditions. Upon approval of the application the applicant is declared to be a citizen of the United States and USCIS issues a certificate of citizenship, pursuant to section 320 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA).
- 2. USCIS uses the data collected on this form to determine eligibility for the requested immigration benefit. The form standardizes requests for the benefit, and ensures that basic information required to assess eligibility is provided by applicants
- 3. The use of this form provides the most efficient means for collecting and processing the required data. In this case, USCIS does not employ the use of information technology in collecting and processing information. USCIS, however, has designated the Form N-600 for e-filing under the Business Transformation Project.
- 4. A review of the Forms Inventory Report revealed no duplication of effort, and there is no other similar information currently available which can be used for this purpose.

- 5. This collection of information does not have an impact on small businesses or other small entities.
- 6. Sections 322 and 341 of the INA provide for the issuance of a certificate of citizenship to individuals who claim to have derived U.S. citizenship through the naturalization of a parent, the naturalization or citizenship of a spouse, or under certain provisions of the law. Form N-600 provides a crucial means of establishing the authenticity of such claims and the absence of this form would impede the processing of such claims for U.S. citizenship. The information collected through this form is essential to documenting whether the applicant has met all of the eligibility requirements to receive a certificate of citizenship recognizing his or her U.S. citizenship status. The information is also collected to ensure a complete and accurate adjudication.
- 7. The special circumstances contained in item 7 of the supporting statement are not applicable to this information collection.
- 8. USCIS will address any comment it receives as a result of the publication of the 60-day notice when it publishes the 30-day notice in the Federal Register.
- 9. USCIS does not provide payments or gifts to respondents in exchange for a benefit sought.
- 10. There is no assurance of confidentiality. The system of record notice associated with this information collection is United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Benefits Information System, which was published in the Federal **Register** on September 29, 2008 at 73 FR 56596. The privacy impact assessment

associated with this information collection is the Reengineered Naturalization Casework System (Dated August 24, 2009).

11. There are some questions regarding marital history of parents that are considered sensitive in nature. However, this information is necessary to make a determination on the applicant's eligibility for citizenship.

12. **Annual Reporting Burden:**

| a. | Number of Respondents | 57,000 |
|----|---|--------|
| b. | Number of Responses per each Respondent | 1 |
| c. | Total Annual Responses | 57,000 |
| d. | Hours per Response | 1.6 |
| e. | Total Annual Reporting Burden | 91,200 |

Annual Reporting Burden

Total annual reporting burden hours is 91,200. This figure was derived by multiplying the number of respondents (57,000) x (1) frequency of response x 1.6 hours (1 hour and 36 minutes) per response.

13. There are no capital or start-up costs associated with this information collection. Any cost burdens to respondents as a result of this collection are identified in question 14. There are fees associated with this information collection. The fee for filing the Form N-600 is \$600.

14. **Annualized Cost Analysis:**

| a. | Printing Cost | \$ | 12,000 |
|----|---------------------------|---------|---------|
| b. | Collecting and Processing | \$ 34,2 | 200,000 |
| c. | Total Cost to Program | \$ 34,2 | 212,000 |

d. Fee Charge \$ 34,212,000

e. Total Annual Cost to Government \$ 0

Government Cost

The estimated cost of the program to the Government is calculated by multiplying the estimated number of respondents (57,000) x the \$600 fee charge. (The fee charges include the suggested average hourly rate for clerical, officer, and managerial time with benefits, plus a percent for the estimated overhead cost for printing, stocking, distributing and processing of this form).

Public Cost

The estimated annual burden cost is \$ 2,803,488. This estimate is based on the number of respondents $(57,000) \times (1)$ number of responses x 1.6 hours (1 hour and 36 minutes) per response x \$30.74 (average hourly rate).

The estimated annual fee cost is \$34,200,000.

This is based on the number of respondents 57,000 x \$600 fee charge.

15. There has been an increase of 20,850 burden hours previously reported for this information collection. This change can be attributed to the fact that the number of respondents increased from 44,441 respondents to 57,000 respondents. Additionally, there has been a small increase in the hours per response from 1.583 hours to 1.6 hours. USCIS has revised this form to comply with plain language mandates and provide the customer with a friendlier, easier to read form. Additionally, USCIS is collecting new information that will facilitate the adjudication of a request for a certificate of citizenship.

- 16. USCIS does not intend to employ the use of statistics or the publication thereof for this collection of information.
- 17. USCIS will display the expiration date in this information collection in accordance with OMB regulations.
- 18. USCIS does not request an exception to the certification of this information collection.
- B. Collection of Information Employing Statistical Methods.
 Not applicable.
- C. Certification and Signature.

PAPERWORK CERTIFICATION

In submitting this request for OMB approval, I certify that the requirements of the Privacy Act and OMB directives have been complied with including paperwork regulations, statistical standards or directives, and any other information policy directives promulgated under 5 CFR 1320.

Sunday Aigbe,

Date

Chief,
Regulatory Products Division,
Office of the Executive Secretariat,
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services,
Department of Homeland Security.