

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY

COUNTIES OF ATLANTIC AND CAPE MAY

Howard H. Berchtold, Jr. Trial Court Administrator

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Atlantic/Cape May Vicinage Celebrates National Adoption Day

The Atlantic/Cape May Vicinage will hold its annual National Adoption Day celebration on Thursday, Nov. 14 in Atlantic County and Friday, Nov. 15 in Cape May County. National Adoption Day is an annual event in which courts and communities in all 50 states join to finalize thousands of adoptions and to celebrate families who adopt. This year the vicinage will help place 25 children in their forever homes.

In Atlantic County, adoptions will be conducted by Judges Michael J. Blee and Nancy L. Ridgway. The celebration will begin at 9 a.m. in the jury assembly room on the first floor of the Atlantic County Civil Courts Building, 1201 Bacharach Blvd., Atlantic City. Gifts will be presented to the children. A mural banner designed by Egg Harbor Township High School students will be presented and displayed.

The Cape May County adoption proceedings and celebration will begin at 8:45 a.m. at the Cape May County Courthouse, 9 N. Main St., Cape May Court House. Adoptions will be conducted by Assignment Judge Julio L. Mendez and Judge John C. Porto.

The events in Atlantic and Cape May counties will be co-hosted by the Superior Court Family Division and the New Jersey Division of Child Protection & Permanency (DCP&P), with the collaboration of the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Atlantic and Cape May Counties and Surrogates Sue Sheppard of Cape May County and James Curcio of Atlantic County.

Information will be available at the events for those interested in learning more about the adoption process. For more information, go to www.nationaladoptionday.org/.

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Although adoptions are closed to the public, arrangements will be made for reporters to interview willing families after the proceedings. Contact Florine Alexander, Family Division Manager, at 609-594-3446 for more information.

