

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY

CHANCERY DIVISION, FAMILY PART HUDSON VICINAGE

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Hudson Vicinage Celebrates National Adoption Day

The Hudson Vicinage Family Division will celebrate National Adoption Day on Friday, Nov. 22.

Adoption proceedings for 15 children and their families will take place at the Hudson County Administration Building, 595 Newark Ave., Jersey City. Superior Court Judges Mark J. Nelson, Bernadette N. DeCastro, Lois Lipton, and Elaine Davis will preside.

Coordinating the event will be the New Jersey Division of Child Protection & Permanency (DCP&P), the Office of the Surrogate, the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA), and adoption professionals and attorneys.

After the hearings, the families will attend a celebration in the 4th floor jury room of the Administration Building. The celebration will be hosted by DCP&P and CASA, with contributions from the United Way, United Parcel Service, and Foster and Adoptive Family Services.

The festivities will continue the following day at the Liberty Science Center for all families finalizing adoptions during the year. About 75 adoptions will have been finalized in 2013.

National Adoption Day is an annual event that seeks to raise public awareness of the number of children in foster care waiting to find permanent and loving families. Courts and communities across the country conduct programs to finalize adoptions of children in foster care and to celebrate the adoptive families. This marks the vicinage's sixth consecutive year of participation.

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Courtroom adoption proceedings are not open to the public. Reporters and photographers are invited to attend the after-court celebration event to be held in the fourth floor jury room of the Administration Building from noon to 3 p.m., where families who have agreed to be interviewed and/or photographed will be available. Contact Division of Child Protection and Permanency representative Lizette Mateo at (201) 863-3179 extension 2208 for additional information.