

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY



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**For immediate release:
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Middlesex Vicinage Celebrates Adoption Day

Middlesex Vicinage will celebrate National Adoption Day on Nov. 20 at the Middlesex County Courthouse, 56 Paterson St., New Brunswick. The goal of the celebration is to raise awareness and promote education on the subject of adoption and to recognize those who have opened their hearts and homes to children.

Festivities begin with an opening ceremony in the courtroom of Assignment Judge Travis L. Francis. Opening remarks will be made by Judge Francis, Middlesex County Surrogate Kevin J. Hoagland and other dignitaries.

Adoption proceedings for 15 children will begin at 9 a.m., with Judge Robert Figarotta presiding. Adopting families, their children and all attendees will enjoy a continental breakfast.

The program is co-hosted by the Middlesex Vicinage, the New Jersey Department of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P), the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Middlesex County Bar Association and the Middlesex County Surrogate's Office. Attorney James Nolan, chair of the Middlesex County Bar Foundation's National Adoption Day Committee, coordinated the celebration.

National Adoption Day is an annual event in which courts and communities in all 50 states come together to finalize thousands of adoptions of children and to celebrate families who adopt. Middlesex Vicinage held its first adoption celebration in 2007.

Information on adoption will be available at the event for those individuals interested in learning more about the adoption process. Information can also be obtained from DCP&P by calling 1-877-NJFOSTER.

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Adoption proceedings are not open to the public. Interview and photo opportunities will be available with willing families after the proceedings conclude. Contact Middlesex County Surrogate Kevin Hoagland at 732-745-3055.