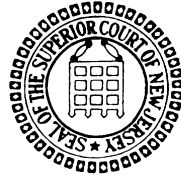


SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY

CHAMBERS OF
LISA P. THORNTON
ASSIGNMENT JUDGE



MONMOUTH COUNTY COURT HOUSE
71 MONUMENT PARK
FREEHOLD, NEW JERSEY 07728-1266
TELEPHONE (732) 677-4100

For immediate release: Nov. 13, 2015

For more information contact:
Gurpreet M. Singh, Trial Court Administrator
732-677-4580

Monmouth Vicinage Observes Adoption Day

In celebration of National Adoption Day, the Monmouth Vicinage will hold a program on Thursday, Nov. 19 at 1:30 p.m. in the Jury Assembly Room in the lower level of the west wing of the Monmouth County Courthouse, 71 Monument Park, Freehold.

Adoptions will be finalized for more than 20 children. Some of the adoptions are arranged through the New Jersey Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P).

Monmouth Vicinage Assignment Judge Lisa P. Thornton will give remarks. Peterson Bellinger will be the keynote speaker. Bellinger, a local high school student who was adopted when he was 8 years old, will speak about the opportunities available to adoptees and ways for an adoptee to become successful in life.

Information about the adoption process will be available. Attendees also will be able to speak with staff from the Monmouth County Surrogate's Office and DCP&P about adopting children in foster care. If interested in becoming a licensed foster/adoptive parent, call 1-877-NJFOSTER.

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Although adoptions are closed to the public, reporters can make arrangements to interview selected families after their adoptions conclude. Call Janet Slocum at 732-677-4208 for details.