

## PRESS RELEASE

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For further information contact:  
Donna L. Mazzanti, Trial Court Administrator's Office  
609-518-2518

49 Rancocas Road  
Mount Holly, NJ 08060  
www.njcourts.com

### **Burlington Vicinage to Celebrate National Adoption Day**

The Burlington Vicinage will celebrate its ninth Adoption Day on Friday, Nov. 20 at 8:45 a.m. on the sixth floor of the Courts Facility, 49 Rancocas Rd., Mount Holly, Assignment Judge Ronald E. Bookbinder announced.

Adoptions will be finalized for more than 25 children at a ceremony recognizing National Adoption Day. Some of the adoptions are arranged through the New Jersey Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P).

Family Presiding Judge John L. Call Jr. and Judge Mark P. Tarantino will preside over the proceedings.

“Helping a child become a part of their forever family is some of the most gratifying work we do,” Judge Bookbinder said.

The celebration will open with welcoming comments from Judge Bookbinder. Judge Tarantino also will give remarks.

Following the proceedings, a luncheon for the families will be held at 12:30 p.m. at the Tabernacle Fire Company No. 1, 76 Hawkin Rd., Tabernacle. Children’s activities are scheduled and families will receive a family portrait.

The event is co-hosted by the Burlington Vicinage, DCP&P, the Court Appointed Special Advocates of Mercer/Burlington and the Burlington County Surrogate’s Office.

National Adoption Day is an annual event to celebrate the families and children whose adoptions will be finalized and to raise public awareness of the need for adoptive homes. If interested in becoming a licensed foster/adoptive parent, call 1-877-NJFOSTER.

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**Adoption hearings are closed to the public. Members of the press are invited to attend the luncheon celebration at the Tabernacle Fire Company, where families who have agreed to be interviewed and/or photographed will be available. For more information, contact Donna Mazzanti at 609-518-2518.**