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### **Hudson Vicinage to Host Adoption Day**

The Hudson Vicinage will celebrate National Adoption Day on Friday, Nov. 18 with the adoption of 13 children and a ceremony from 9:30 a.m. to noon at the Hudson County Administration Building, 595 Newark Ave., Jersey City.

Judges Bernadette N. DeCastro, Lois Lipton, and Nesle A. Rodriguez will preside over the adoptions. Once the adoptions are finalized, the families will attend a reception in the jury room on the fourth floor of the administration building.

National Adoption Day is an annual event in which courts and communities in all 50 states come together to finalize thousands of adoptions. The event seeks to raise awareness of the importance of adoption and to recognize caregivers who have chosen to open their homes. This is the ninth year the vicinage will take part in the nationwide celebration.

The reception will be hosted by the vicinage's family division, the Division of Child Protection and Permanency and Court Appointed Special Advocates. United Way, Care Point Health, United Parcel Service, and Goya, Inc. are sponsors of the event.

“National Adoption Day is a memorable and remarkable day for the judges, staff, and volunteers, and it is a life-changing day for the adopted children and their families.” said Presiding Family Division Judge Maureen B. Mantineo. “The family division is honored to be a part of the celebration.”

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Adoption proceedings are not open to the public. Reporters and photographers are invited to attend the reception from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Families who have agreed to be interviewed and/or photographed will be available after the adoption proceedings conclude.