

Jason Corter
Trial Court Administrator

www.njcourts.gov • phone: 856-686-7443 • fax: 856-686-7521

For further information contact:
Tina DiNicola
Acting Family Division Manager
856-453-4540

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Cumberland/Gloucester/Salem Vicinage to Celebrate National Adoption Day

The Cumberland/Gloucester/Salem Vicinage will celebrate National Adoption Day on Wednesday, Nov. 15 in Salem County and Friday, Nov. 17 in Cumberland and Gloucester counties.

“National Adoption Day is a special time when, through the combined efforts of committed adopting parents, the Department of Children and Families, the local surrogates’ offices and the Judiciary, many sad situations involving children are brightened by the creation of ‘forever families’ in these loving, adopting homes,” Family Division Presiding Judge Harold U. Johnson Jr. said.

Adoption Day events are coordinated through the vicinage’s family division. There will be a reception in each county for the adoptive families following the proceedings, with light refreshments provided by various organizations.

In Salem County, the reception will begin at 1:30 p.m. in the second floor waiting room of the Salem County Courthouse, 92 Market St., Salem.

In Gloucester County, the reception will begin at 9 a.m. in Room 2108 of the Justice Complex, 70 Hunter St., Woodbury.

In Cumberland County, the reception will begin at 1:30 p.m. in the Jury Assembly Room of the Cumberland County Courthouse, 60 W. Broad St., Bridgeton.

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 toward the importance of adoption and to recognize caregivers who have chosen to open their homes.

The New Jersey Division of Child Protection and Permanency, the surrogates’ offices of Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem counties and the Court Appointed Special Advocates of Cumberland/Gloucester/Salem are co-hosting the events with the vicinage.

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Adoption proceedings are closed to the public. Members of the press are invited to attend the receptions, where families who have agreed to be interviewed and/or photographed will be available after their adoption proceedings conclude. For more information and to confirm attendance, call Theresa Fortson at 856-686-7551.