

News Release



New Jersey Courts

Independence • Integrity • Fairness • Quality Service

GLENN A. GRANT, J.A.D.

Acting Administrative Director of the Courts

For more information contact:

PETER McALEER

MARYANN SPOTO

Office of Communications and Community Relations

609-815-2910

www.njcourts.gov

RICHARD J. HUGHES JUSTICE COMPLEX • P.O. BOX 037 • TRENTON, NJ 08625-0984

For additional information contact:
Liana Dinallo, Family Division Manager
201-221-0700, ext. 25201

For immediate release
Nov. 13, 2020

Bergen Vicinage to Celebrate National Adoption Day 2020

Assignment Judge Bonnie J. Mizdol announced today the Bergen Vicinage will celebrate its first virtual National Adoption Day on Friday, Nov. 20 at 8:30 a.m. via Zoom.

This year marks the vicinage's 12th consecutive year of participation in National Adoption Day. Judge Mizdol is pleased to be a part of this collective national effort to celebrate, raise public awareness and encourage adoption of children in foster care waiting to find their forever families.

Family Division Judge Jane Gallina-Mecca will finalize nine adoptions. Presiding Family Division Judge Peter Melchionne has called Adoption Day "one of the happiest and most rewarding days for our judges, staff, families and especially for the children."

Vital to the success of the event are the collaborative efforts of the New Jersey Division of Child Protection and Permanency, the Bergen County Surrogate's Office, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Bergen County, and the vicinage's Children in Court (CIC) Unit. In place of in-person celebrations, all participating families will receive a gift basket, family photos on the steps of the Bergen County Justice Center in Hackensack, and congratulations from court staff and stakeholders.

National Adoption Day is an annual event in which courts and communities in all 50 states come together to finalize thousands of adoptions, make children's dreams come true, and celebrate families who adopt.

Although adoption hearings are closed to the public, arrangements will be made for reporters to interview willing families upon conclusion of the adoption proceedings. For further information, contact the family division office at 201-221-0700, ext. 25201.

###