

# News Release



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

The Burlington Vicinage will celebrate its 14th annual Adoption Day on Friday, Nov. 20 at 8:45 a.m. virtually via Zoom.

Superior Court Judges John J. Burke III and John L. Call Jr. will finalize adoption proceedings for 13 children. The celebration will open with welcome comments by Assignment Judge Jeanne T. Covert, Judge Burke, and Amanda Hammond, area director of the New Jersey Department of Children and Families.

“Adoption Day is always filled with hope and joy for so many children here in Burlington County, but the importance of family and security has never been greater than it is right now, as we struggle through a worldwide pandemic,” Judge Covert said. “This meaningful day takes on an even greater significance, as we look forward to celebrating the work of so many, to help our children and families to find permanent fulfillment.”

The vicinage's Adoption Day celebration is co-sponsored by the Court Appointed Special Advocates program, the Burlington County Surrogate's Office and the New Jersey Division of Child Protection and Permanency, whose staff will deliver balloons and edible arrangements to the families. The Burlington County Bar Foundation will provide toy bears to the children.

National Adoption Day is an annual event that celebrates the families who choose to adopt, while raising public awareness of the need for adoptive homes.

Though adoption hearings are closed to the public, arrangements can be made for reporters to interview willing families after the proceedings. For more information, contact Natonya Phillips at 609-288-9500, ext. 38124.

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