

YOLANDA CICCONE
Assignment Judge

ADRIANA M. CALDERON
Trial Court Administrator

ANGELA M. PARDO
Asst. Trial Court Administrator/
Operations Division Manager

ELIZABETH RAIMONDO
Vicinage Ombudsman

www.njcourts.com • Phone: 908•203•6131 • NJ Relay 800•852•7899

**For immediate release:
Nov. 16, 2015**

**For additional information contact:
Eliana Pazos
908-231-7637**

Somerset/Hunterdon/Warren Vicinage Celebrates National Adoption Day

The Somerset/Hunterdon/Warren Vicinage will hold its annual Adoption Day program on Wednesday, Nov. 18, at the Somerset County Courthouse, 20 N. Bridge St., Somerville, Assignment Judge Yolanda Ciccone announced.

Co-hosted by the vicinage, the New Jersey Department of Child Protection and Permanency, Court Appointed Special Advocates, and the Somerset and Hunterdon County Bar Association Family Practice Sections, the event will celebrate adoption and recognize those who have opened their hearts and homes to children.

Adoption proceedings for 17 children and their families will begin at 1:30 p.m. and will be officiated by Family Division Presiding Judge Hany Mawla and General Equity Presiding Judge Margaret Goodzeit. Following the proceedings, a celebration for families will be held in the Jury Assembly Room.

The speakers will include Judges Ciccone and Goodzeit.

“Adoption Day is the single happiest day on the Family Court calendar,” explained Judge Goodzeit. She said, “On most days the work of the Family Court centers on difficult issues facing our society. However, Adoption Day provides an opportunity for everyone to celebrate the happiest of occasions; the introduction of a child to a loving forever family unit.”

National Adoption Day is an annual event in which courts and communities in all 50 states join to finalize thousands of adoptions of children and to celebrate families who adopt.

Information will be available at the event for individuals interested in learning more about the adoption process.

###

Although adoptions are closed to the public, arrangements will be made for reporters to interview willing families after the conclusion of their adoption proceedings. Contact Eliana Pazos, Children in Court team leader, at 908-231-7637 for more information.