



SUPERIOR COURT OF
CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN
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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: November 14, 2023

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**NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY
NOVEMBER 18, 2023, 9:00 a.m.
Stockton Courthouse – Dept. 3D
180 E. Weber Ave., Stockton, CA**

Stockton, CA — On Saturday, November 18, 2023 at 9 a.m., the Superior Court of California, County of San Joaquin, will host National Adoption Day with San Joaquin County Human Services Agency, Aspiranet, Wayfinder Family Services, Family Extension, Parents by Choice, Share Homes FFA, and ICPC. This year's event will celebrate and finalize adoptions for 23 families and 33 children.

This event will be presided over by Judges Michael D. Coughlan, Anthony P. Lucaccini, Erin Guy-Castillo, and Michael J. Mulvihill Jr. Judge Erin Guy-Castillo will begin with a brief welcome and introduction.

Upon reflection of this eventful day, Judge Erin Guy-Castillo said, "The San Joaquin Superior Court is honored and thrilled to participate again in National Adoption Day. We have an opportunity to not only formalize forever families for so many children, but are continuing to raise awareness about the children in our community who are in need of foster care or are eligible and waiting for adoptions. We want this meaningful event to honor and celebrate those who have come forward to transform the lives of children through adoption. We are grateful as a court to participate in this joyous event that makes a difference in the lives of so many children." Judge Michael J. Mulvihill Jr. adds, "It is truly an honor as a member of the San Joaquin Superior Court and a resident of San Joaquin County to participate in National Adoption Day. We are so blessed as a community to have so many parents come to court and enlarge their family by adopting these children in need. While these families may not share the same blood, the love they share is what truly makes them a family. It is more than an honor to be part of their day and we wish them nothing but love and happiness."

Volunteers from the court and agencies participate in this special day by working together to celebrate the joys of adoption and encourage more families and individuals to give children permanent families through adoption.

National Adoption Day has been celebrated across the nation on the Saturday before Thanksgiving and to raise awareness of the more than 113,000 children and youth in foster care waiting to find a permanent and loving family. Over the past 24 years, the nationwide collective effort of judges, lawyers, court staff, foster professionals, child advocates, sheriff personnel, and many others has made the dreams of over 75,000 children and youth come true by working on this one special day to finalize adoptions for children and youth in foster care.

For your convenience, here is information regarding the event:

- Begins at 9:00 a.m., Jury Assembly Room 12th floor
- Court opens to families at 8:15 a.m.
- Welcome/Introduction: Judge Erin Guy-Castillo
- Stockton Courthouse - 180 E. Weber Ave., Stockton, CA
- Members of the public and press are invited to attend court in person. Press interested in recording court proceedings via TV camera and recorder, still camera, and/or audio must complete required paperwork. Please send requests to mediarequest@sjcourts.org.

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