

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN 180 E. Weber Avenue Stockton, CA 95202 (209) 992-5695 <u>www.sjcourts.org</u>

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: November 19, 2024 Contact: Sonya Farnsworth, (209) 992-5333

NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY NOVEMBER 23, 2024, 9:30 a.m. Stockton Courthouse

Stockton, CA — On Saturday, November 23, 2024 at 9:30 a.m., the Superior Court of California, County of San Joaquin, will host National Adoption Day with San Joaquin County Human Services Agency, Parents by Choice, Family Extension Foster Care, Foster Family Agency, VBR Foster Family Agency, Wayfinder Family Services, and The Linus Project. This year's event will celebrate and finalize adoptions for 18 families and 22 children.

This event will be presided over by Judges Guy Castillo, and Sabrina Schneweis-Coe. Judge Erin Guy-Castillo will begin with a brief welcome and introduction.

Upon reflection of this eventful day, Judge Erin Guy-Castillo said, "The court is honored and excited to participate in adoption Saturday and give forever homes to so many deserving children in our community. The positive impacts that come from finding permanency and stability for our youth is important and valuable."

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 108,000 children and youth in foster care waiting to find a permanent and loving family. Over the past 25 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 85,000 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:

- Event begins at 9:30 a.m., Jury Assembly Room 12th floor
- Court opens to families at 8:30 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.