



news

Colorado Judicial Branch
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Colorado courts celebrate National Adoption Day; 152 foster children to be united with permanent families

DENVER – National Adoption Day is being celebrated in many of Colorado’s Judicial Districts throughout November, with judges and magistrates across Colorado finalizing the adoption of 152 foster children into permanent families. Colorado is currently home to 267 children waiting for permanent families.

“Adoption Day in Colorado has become a wonderful tradition and it pleases me to see so many courts participating,” said Chief Justice Michael L. Bender. “However, the mission is far from over. We must remain focused on finding good, permanent homes with loving and engaged families for those children that are still in need.”

Adoption Day events in Colorado are being coordinated through the courts, state and local human services departments, as well as other local and state child agencies and advocacy groups.

Following is a rundown of November’s Adoption Day activities in Colorado:

First Judicial District (Jefferson and Gilpin counties) – On Thursday, Nov. 21, 2013, beginning at 8 a.m. District Judge Ann Gail Meinster will preside over three adoptions at the Jefferson County Combined Court (100 Jefferson Parkway, Golden, CO 80401). For more information contact Kris Kinzli of Jefferson County Human Services at 720-252-2541.

Second Judicial District (Denver County) – On Friday, Nov. 22, 2013, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Lindsey-Flanigan Courthouse (520 W. Colfax, Denver, CO 80204), Denver Juvenile Court Judges Donna Schmalberger and D. Brett Woods will join Juvenile Court Magistrates Howard Bartlett and Melanie Gilbert, along with Denver District Court Judge Robert McGahey, to unite 47 children with 34 families. This is the ninth annual celebration of National Adoption Day in Denver. Expanded media coverage has been granted – cameras are welcome. For more

information contact Barbara Bosley, Family Court Facilitator, Denver Juvenile Court, 720-337-0584.

Eighth Judicial District (Jackson and Larimer counties) – On Friday, Nov. 12, 2013, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., 17 children will be adopted at the Larimer County Justice Center (201 La Porte Ave., Fort Collins, CO 80521). District Judges Gregory Lammons and Dave Williams will preside. Requests for expanded media coverage will be accepted. For more information contact Donna Hochberg at 970-493-1718.

Tenth Judicial District (Pueblo County) – On Friday, Nov. 22, 2013, beginning at 9 a.m., District Judge Larry Schwartz will preside over the adoptions of 10 children into 8 families. The proceedings will take place in Division G of the Pueblo County Courthouse (320 w. 10th Street, Pueblo, CO 81003). For more information contact Karen Huraki at 719-583-4716.

Eleventh Judicial District (Chafee, Custer, Fremont and Park counties) – National Adoption Day will be celebrated with the adoption of 11 children into six families. For more information, please contact Nancy Myers at 719-269-2092.

Sixteenth Judicial District (Bent, Crowley and Otero counties) – A celebration for all families in the 16th Judicial District who adopted in 2013 will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2013, at 11 a.m. in Room 206 of the Otero Combined Court (13 W. 3rd Street, La Junta, CO 81050). No adoption hearings are scheduled, but District Judges Mark MacDonnell and Michael Schiferl will be in attendance to celebrate with the families. Media coverage will be limited to the families that agree to have their name used and/or picture taken. For more information, please contact Wendy Larsen at 719-383-7123.

Seventeenth Judicial District (Adams and Broomfield counties) – On Saturday, Nov. 16, 2013, from 9 a.m. to noon, 19 children will be united with 13 permanent families. All other families who have finalized adoptions in Adams County in 2013 are also invited to join the festivities. The proceedings will take place at the Adams County Justice Center (1100 Judicial Center Drive, Brighton, CO 80601) in courtrooms 601, 602 and 603. District Judges Michael Goodbee and Craig Welling will join Magistrate Gregory Beacom in presiding over the docket. Cameras will be allowed in the courtroom with permission of the families. For more information contact Juvenile Court Programs Coordinator Simone Jones at 303-654-3230.

Eighteenth Judicial District (Arapahoe, Douglas, Elbert and Lincoln counties) – Adoption Day hearings will be held on Thursday, Nov. 21, 2013, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Magistrate Kathleen Janski will preside over adoptions for 11 families. The hearings will be held in Division 22, Courthouse 2 of the Arapahoe County Justice Center (7305 S. Potomac Street,

Centennial, CO 80112). On Nov. 14, 2013, Magistrate Janski also finalized adoptions for 15 additional families. For more information call Elizabeth Stapp at 720-568-4862.

Nineteenth Judicial District (Weld County) – On Friday, Nov. 22, 2013, throughout the day, District Court Judge Marcelo Kopcow will preside over adoptions for 17 children and 14 families. Adoption proceedings will take place in Division 9 of the Weld County Courthouse (901 9th Ave. Greeley, CO 80631). The Court has granted Expanded Media Coverage, but will allow Expanded Media Coverage only with written consent from the parties. For more information call Judge Kopcow's chambers at 970-475-2590.

Twentieth Judicial District (Boulder County) – On Friday, Nov. 22, 2013, adoption hearings for two children will be held at 10 and 10:30 a.m. Magistrate Elizabeth Brodsky will preside. In addition to these two adoption cases, the Court will celebrate adoptions by 14 families over the past year. Adoption proceedings will take place in Division O of the Boulder County Justice Center (1777 Sixth Street, Boulder, CO 80302). For more information call Magistrate Brodsky's chambers at 303-441-3742.

National Adoption Day is a collective national effort to raise awareness of the more than 100,000 children in foster care across the country waiting to find permanent, loving families. Since its inception, National Adoption Day has made the dreams of thousands of children come true through the cooperative work of courts, judges, attorneys, adoption professionals, child welfare agencies and advocates to finalize adoptions and find permanent, loving homes for children in foster care.

National Adoption Day is celebrated every year in November. In 2006, for the first time, National Adoption Day was celebrated in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. That year, more than 250 events were held throughout the country to finalize the adoptions of more than 3,300 children in foster care, and to celebrate all families who adopt. Since 2000, more than 40,000 children have had their adoptions finalized on National Adoption Day.

Editor's Note: Except where otherwise specifically allowed, any news media organizations wishing to record audio and/or video or take still photographs of the proceedings must receive prior approval from the Court, and participants will have the choice to decline to be taped or photographed. Click [here](#) for rules governing expanded media coverage, as well as an application form.

This information is provided as an e-mail service of the Colorado State Judicial Branch, Office of State Court Administrator, 1300 Broadway, Suite 1200, Denver, CO 80203. To discontinue this service or update your e-mail address, please respond to this message with your name, contact information and any comments.