## Superior Court of California County of Santa Clara

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## Adoption Day 2022: Connecting Foster Children with Long Awaited Forever Homes

SAN JOSÉ, California (November 17, 2022): On Friday, November 18, 2022, Santa Clara Superior Court judicial officers and staff, along with the Santa Clara Department of Family and Children's Services, will gather at the Family Justice Center Courthouse to celebrate National Adoption Day by formalizing 13 adoptions and celebrating the concept of family.

On National Adoption Day, courts and communities throughout the United States collaborate to finalize thousands of adoptions of children and honor adopting families. Numerous community events are held each year to celebrate the adoption of foster care children by loving families.

"Each adoption story is unique and although children and families come to adoption through diverse paths, they all endure the process with open hearts," said Presiding Judge Theodore C. Zayner. "It takes patience, flexibility, and a willingness to learn as an adoptive parent and an adoptee. We are grateful for all those who play a role in finding permanency for children in need of a family."

Locally, Adoption Day is an opportunity to increase public awareness of the need for adoptive parents, educate would-be parents about the adoption process, and celebrate the local families who have opened their lives to children in need of permanent homes.

"Given all the recent challenges in the world, it is critical for children to receive the nurturing stability of being part of permanent families," expressed Alicia Vojnik, the Court's Deputy Chief Executive Officer.

This day is also unique in that the Santa Clara Superior Court is permitting media access to the adopted children upon the consent of the adult caretaker with whom they are attending the event. This means that our deputies will allow press into the event and facility without the

MC500/MC510 documents normally required. Families who agree to be photographed, videoed and/or recorded can be identified by a special sticker worn by the adoptive parents. The Santa Clara Superior Court requests that you respect participants' decisions and only approach those wearing these badges. Please let us know if you intend to be present for this event by email to <a href="mailto:media@scscourt.org">media@scscourt.org</a>.

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