

Celebrating Adoption

Friday is National Adoption Day, and once again the 13th Judicial Circuit – and court systems around the country – will celebrate the creation of new, “forever” families.

“This special day is an event at which we publicly recognize and thank all of the people who work tirelessly to ensure that these children are able to find loving and nurturing families,” said Hillsborough Circuit Judge Katherine Essrig. “It is also a day to celebrate the other adoptions of foster children that occur throughout the year and when we raise awareness of the 100,000 children in foster care in the United States, all of whom are waiting to find permanent homes.”

Some 750 children in Florida are awaiting adoption and seeking an adoptive family, which is in part why Gov. Rick Scott proclaimed November Florida Adoption Month. On Friday, 25 children from 14 different families here will finalize adoption. Ceremonies begin at 9 a.m. on the sixth floor of the George Edgecomb Courthouse, 800 E. Twiggs St. in downtown Tampa. Court proceedings start at 9:45 a.m.