

Superior Court of California

Hall of Justice 800 South Victoria Avenue Ventura, CA 93009

> Michael D. Planet Executive Officer/Clerk and Jury Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VENTURA SUPERIOR COURT CELEBRATES COURT ADOPTION AND PERMANENCY MONTH

The Ventura Superior Court will celebrate "Court Adoption and Permanency Month" with a special adoption calendar on Friday, November 3, 2017, at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom J6 at the Juvenile Courthouse in El Rio. Adoptions will be finalized for several children and Certificates of Family *Membership* will be presented. The Juvenile Courthouse is located at the Judge Steven Z. Perren Juvenile Justice Complex, 4353 E. Vineyard Avenue, El Rio. The event is open to the public and the media.

In addition to the special adoption calendar on November 3, an Adoption and Foster Care Information Fair will be held at the Pacific View Mall, on the first floor near Macys, in Ventura on Saturday, November 18, 2017, from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Members of the community are invited to attend and speak with representatives from organizations that provide services and support to foster and adoptive parents.

On behalf of the Judicial Council of California, California Supreme Court Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye has proclaimed November as a month dedicated to further improving the administration of justice for proceedings involving children and families. On October 24, 2017, the Ventura County Board of Supervisors presented the Ventura Superior Court with a Resolution proclaiming November 2017 as Adoption and Permanency Month in Ventura County. The Ventura Superior Court will

Ventura Superior Court Celebrates Court Adoption and Permanency Month October 30, 2017 Page 2

place a strong emphasis on permanency planning and adoptions throughout the month.

Nearly half a million incidents of child abuse and neglect are reported each year in California. More than 24,100 children enter foster care each year, and almost 60,900 children are living apart from their families in out-of-home care. Nearly 40 percent of the children in foster care in California have been away from their families in out-of-home care for two or more years. Twenty-three percent of the youth in care are transitional-age youth aged 16 to 20, and seven percent exited foster care without reunifying or obtaining a permanent home by the time they reached the age of majority. Of the more than 28,900 children leaving foster care in 2016, 50 percent were reunited with their families and 23 percent were adopted.

Individuals interested in obtaining information on adoptions may contact the County of Ventura Human Services Agency at (805) 240-2700 and ask for the Adoptions Officer of the Day.

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