



**Second Judicial Circuit of Florida Press Release  
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\*\*\*\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\*\*\*\*

**National Adoption Day - Special adoption ceremony and reception to  
be held on November 19**

TALLAHASSEE, FL – In honor of National Adoption Day, an unprecedented number of courts and communities in all 50 states come together to finalize thousands of adoptions of children from foster care and to celebrate all families that adopt.

This year, Florida's Second Judicial Circuit has partnered with Children's Home Society, Florida Baptist Children's Home, the Department of Children and Families, the Guardian Ad Litem Program, and Big Bend Community Based Care to celebrate adoptions.

To help make adoption days really special and memorable for the children becoming part of a forever family, the Second Circuit has designed a medallion as a memento, and each child adopted will be given one of the medallions. Each of the full-color medallions has the Second Circuit's logo on one side and on the other, the outline of a red heart against a white background, surrounded by the words "I was chosen. I was loved. I was adopted". A picture of the medallion can be viewed on the Second Circuit website at <http://2ndcircuit.leoncountyfl.gov/images/medallion.jpg>.

Second Circuit Judge Karen Gievers is responsible for dependency cases in Leon and Jefferson Counties, and worked with Trial Court Administrator Grant Slayden and Family Court Liaison Kim Stephens to make the medallions a reality. As Judge Gievers stated, "When a youngster is adopted and becomes a legal, permanent part of a forever family, that day is a very special and important one, and should be remembered, and the Court is pleased to provide this memento as a gift for such remembrance to children adopted in the six counties in the circuit".

The Second Judicial Circuit will recognize National Adoption Day on Wednesday, November 19. The Court will finalize adoptions and a reception will follow at the Tallahassee Women's Club to celebrate with those families who will be participating in the finalization and recognition ceremony. The adoption finalization celebration will begin on Wednesday, November 19, 2014 at the Leon County Courthouse, Courtroom 2-E at 9:30 a.m. with a ceremony and reception following at the Tallahassee's Women Club at Noon.

The Honorable Karen Gievers, Circuit Judge, will preside over the adoption finalizations.