

30th annual D.C. Adoption Day set for Nov. 19



Chad Copeland, Scooter Ward and their son, Norman with Judge Noel Johnson at an adoption day proceeding in D.C. Superior Court. (Washington Blade photo by Michael Key)

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At least two same-sex couples were among the prospective parents expected to have their adoptions approved for more than 20 children on Saturday, Nov. 19, during the city's 30th Annual Adoption Day ceremony at the D.C. Superior Court.

The event was scheduled to take place from 10 a.m. to noon in the third floor atrium at the Superior Court building at 500 Indiana Ave., N.W.

Officials with the Superior Court and the D.C. Child and Family Services Agency, which are jointly sponsoring the event, have invited people interested in adopting or who would like to learn more about the adoption process to attend the event. It is free and open to the public. "The ceremony is designed to celebrate the joys of adoption and encourage area residents to consider adopting or fostering a child in the District's child welfare system," a statement released by organizers of the event says.

“Over 20 children, several of whom are biological siblings, will be adopted at the ceremony,” the statement says. “Each child and his or her family will be introduced to the audience and come forward to have their judge sign the final adoption decree.

According to the statement, the D.C. Child and Family Services Agency is seeking “permanent loving, adoptive homes” for 86 of the 1,004 children in the city’s foster care system. It says social workers and representatives of local groups that support foster and adoptive parents will be present to answer questions from people seeking information about adopting.

The city adoption agency has been approving qualified gays and lesbians for adoption for nearly 20 years.

Additional information about the adoption process is available [here](#).