

OCT - 9 2014

NT  
Ronald R. Carpenter  
Clerk

## THE SUPREME COURT OF WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF THE COURT  
HONORING WASHINGTON  
ADOPTION DAY 2014

PROCLAMATION

No. 25700-B-549

WHEREAS, the Washington State Supreme Court recognizes the importance of finding children permanent, safe and loving families through adoption; and

WHEREAS, more than 8,800 children are currently in foster care in Washington State; and

WHEREAS, more than 1,400 of those foster children have been legally separated from their parents and are waiting for families to adopt them; and

WHEREAS, the Court established the Commission on Children in Foster Care to study and improve court processes in order to help foster children move more quickly into permanent homes; and

WHEREAS, National Adoption Day was launched in November 2000 by the Alliance for Children's Rights to raise awareness that thousands of foster children need adoptive families, to build collaboration among local adoption agencies, courts and advocacy organizations, and to finalize foster adoptions; and

WHEREAS, 2014 will mark the tenth year Washington State courts have celebrated National Adoption Day statewide under the auspices of the Foster Care Commission, the Department of Social and Health Services, the Superior Court Judges' Association, the Northwest Adoption Exchange, and the Washington State Bar Association; and

WHEREAS, 1,478 children have been adopted into new families during these well-reported community celebrations over the past nine years; and

WHEREAS, this effort raises awareness, helps provide children an opportunity to become part of stable and permanent homes and will encourage more Washington families to make a difference in the life of a child through adoption; Now, therefore, it is hereby

ORDERED:

That Washington Adoption Day shall be honored on November 21, 2014. The Washington State Supreme Court commends all courts participating in this celebration.

DATED at Olympia, Washington this 9<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2014.

Barbara Madsen

Charles Johnson

Charles K. Maggini

John Adams

[Signature]

Mary E. Fairhurst

Angela M. Reed

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