



# News Release

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FROM: Chambers of the Chief Judge  
19th Judicial Circuit  
Lake County  
Waukegan, Illinois 60085-4359

Date of Release: November 22, 2022  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Waukegan, Illinois

## **19<sup>th</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT RECOGNIZES ADOPTION MONTH**

In 1984, President Ronald Reagan created the first National Adoption Week; and in 1995, President Bill Clinton proclaimed November as National Adoption Month for the United States. In conjunction with our Courtroom partners including Court Appointed Special Advocates ([CASA](#)), Illinois Department of Children and Family Services ([DCFS](#)), Juvenile Probation and Detention Services, and Court Administration, Chief Judge Mark L. Levitt is proud to announce the 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit too recognizes the month of November as National Adoption Month.

“We are incredibly grateful to the organizations, volunteers, and members of the Courts’ team that assist in the adoption process, assisting children in finding their forever families. These collaborative efforts are imperative and must continue to raise awareness for the more than 120,000 children who are in foster care,” said Chief Judge Mark L. Levitt.

The 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit continued to handle adoptions virtually throughout the pandemic, recognizing the vital part the Court plays in uniting children with families. In 2020 the 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit completed 62 adoptions, in 2021 74 adoptions, and year-to-date in 2022, 81 adoptions have been initiated or completed.

If you are interested in becoming a CASA volunteer, please visit their [website](#). If you are someone who has room in their heart and their home, please consider adoption.

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