

November 14, 2005

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**Actress Victoria Rowell, Former Foster Child, to Keynote Adoption Day
-- Adoption Day 2005 to Celebrate and Encourage Adoptions in Community --**

The D.C. Superior Court and the D.C. Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA) will co-host the 19th Annual Adoption Day in Court on Saturday, November 19, 2005. At this ceremony to celebrate the joy of adoption, **more than 30 actual adoptions will be finalized** and adoption decrees will be signed with children and family present. Each child will be introduced to the audience by emcee Barbara Harrison, local news anchor. Victoria Rowell, who currently appears in *The Young and the Restless*, is the keynote speaker for the event.

- WHAT:** **Adoption Day in Court Celebration**
 Theme: *Add to a Family, Multiply the Love*
- WHERE:** **Moultrie Courthouse**
 3rd Floor Atrium - 500 Indiana Avenue, N.W.
- WHEN:** **Saturday, November 19, 2005 - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon**
- WHO:** Superior Court Chief Judge Rufus G. King, III
 Family Court Presiding Judge Lee F. Satterfield
 Deputy Mayor Brenda Donald Walker
 Keynote Speaker Victoria Rowell, Actor

INTERVIEWS: Several families will be available before, during and after the ceremony for press to interview, including **a couple who just adopted their fourth 'special needs' child, overcoming those challenges as well as the father's paraplegia. The children being adopted range in age from 11 months to 17 years old.** All 411 children adopted in the past year - and their families - have been invited to the ceremony and celebration.

Following the ceremony, refreshments will be provided, as well as entertainment by the Metropolitan Police Department band, "*MPD Confidential*."

Members of the public are encouraged to attend.

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