November 17, 2004 For information contact: Leah Gurowitz 202/ 879-1700

2004 Adoption Day to Celebrate Record Number of Adoptions in D.C. Actual adoption decrees will be signed with children and families present

The D.C. Superior Court and the D.C. Child and Family Services Agency will co-host the 18th Annual "Adoption Day in Court" on Saturday, November 20, 2004. At this ceremony to celebrate adoption, **30 actual adoptions will be finalized.** This year there is even more to celebrate: a record number of **376 public adoptions were finalized in the past fiscal year** – this represents a **32% increase** over FY 2003.

WHAT: **Adoption Day in Court**

WHERE: Moultrie Courthouse

3rd Floor Atrium

500 Indiana Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20001

WHEN: Saturday, November 20, 2004

10 am to noon

WHO: Superior Court Chief Judge Rufus G. King, III

Family Court Presiding Judge Lee Satterfield

D.C. Mayor Anthony Williams

D.C. Children and Family Services Agency Deputy Director Sarah Maxwell

Note: * Several families will be available before, during and after the ceremony for press to interview. All 482 children adopted in the past year – and their families – have been invited to the ceremony and celebration. **Members of the public are encouraged to attend.**

* Refreshments will be available at the celebration following the ceremony and entertainment will be provided by the D.C. Metropolitan Police Department's Band, "MPD Confidential".