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National Council For Adoption to Honor New Adoption Hall of Fame Awardees at its 30th Anniversary “Bow Ties and Pearls” Gala Celebrating 30 Years of Principled Adoption Advocacy

November 11, 2010 – Alexandria, VA – On Thursday November 18th, the National Council For Adoption (NCFA) will celebrate three decades of adoption advocacy. The event will be held at the Willard Hotel in Washington, D.C. As part of the 30th Anniversary Gala, NCFA will also award new recipients of the Adoption Hall of Fame Awards. The cocktail reception begins at 6:30pm, followed by a live auction and awards dinner at 7:30pm.

Each year NCFA presents its prestigious Adoption Hall of Fame Award and Friend of Adoption Award to individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to promoting the positive option of adoption. Past award recipients include members of Congress, presidential administrations, and “goodwill ambassadors” of adoption who have proven their commitment to promoting sound and ethical adoption policies and practices.

In honor of its 30th year, NCFA will also award Mr. C. Harold Brown with the Ruby Lee Piester Adoption Award, named for NCFA’s founder, Ruby Lee Piester. This distinguished award has only been given to one other individual, NCFA’s founding president and CEO, the late Dr. William L. Pierce.

NCFA will induct Mr. Fred Riley, Ms. Lillie Petit Gallagher, and Rep. Jim McDermott into the Adoption Hall of Fame, and will award the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute with the Friend of Adoption Award. These inductees join a distinguished list of adoption advocates who have worked diligently to help children find loving, permanent families.

NCFA is also pleased to welcome Honorary Co-Hosts, Senator Mary Landrieu and Senator Jim Inhofe. Mr. Michael Barone, Senior Political Analyst for the Washington Examiner, Resident Fellow of the American Enterprise Institute and Co-author of The Almanac of American Politics, will serve as the Master of Ceremonies at the Gala.

The event is sponsored by passionate adoption advocates, adoptive parents, and adoption professionals who personally value adoption and its important role in building happy families worldwide. In addition to members of Congress, Administration officials, and embassy representatives, guests at the 30th Anniversary Gala will include adoption agency directors, adoptive families, the media, and sponsoring organizations.

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Founded in 1980, the National Council For Adoption (NCFA) is an adoption advocacy nonprofit that promotes a positive culture of adoption through education, research, and legislative action. Through its core areas of focus—infant adoption, adoption out of foster care, and intercountry adoption—NCFA serves children, birthparents, adoptive families, adoption agencies, U.S. and foreign governments, policymakers, media, and the general public as the authoritative voice for adoption.

More information is available on our website, www.adoptioncouncil.org.