



Save Abandoned Babies Foundation

Illinois is a safe haven state. Tell a friend. Talk about it. You might save a life.

Date: April 12, 2010

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MEDIA ALERT: For Immediate Release

KICK OFF PRESS CONFERENCE FOR SAVE ABANDONED BABIES DAY, THANK YOU WALK

When: 9:45 a.m., Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Where: Under Arcade at 55 East Erie Street
Chicago, IL 60611

Who: Lisa Madigan, Illinois Attorney General
Lt. Barbara West, Chicago Police Department's Domestic Violence
Dawn Geras, Save Abandoned Babies Foundation (SAB)

What: Press conference to kick off Illinois Save Abandoned Babies Day, to announce babies newly relinquished under the law and to urge support for HB5459.

Volunteers of the Save Abandoned Babies Foundation will begin a "*Thank You Walk for the Babies*" in Chicago tomorrow morning with a kick off press conference. They will be distributing some of the 55,000 informational cards created in honor of the 55 infants saved in Illinois the 2001 passage of the Safe Haven Law. The Chicago Police Dept. will be handing out 26,000 cards during the day, and many schools will be giving them to students.

SAB will also be announcing yet unreported information about several Illinois babies newly relinquished under the law, who have been placed with loving families.

In addition, today HB5459, amending the Safe Haven Law, is scheduled for a hearing in the Illinois Senate. Under the current law a parent is given a large packet of information and lengthy forms that can be confusing and complicated to fill out. No parent who has relinquished a child has ever provided this information. This amendment simplifies the paperwork with the goal of obtaining vital medical information needed for both child and adoptive family.

The Illinois Safe Haven law allows a desperate parent a safe and legal option to unsafe infant abandonment, without fear of prosecution. A parent may legally relinquish an unharmed newborn up to 30 days old to personnel at any fire station, police station, hospital or emergency medical care facility with no questions asked.

The Save Abandoned Babies Foundation is a 2008 recipient of Prevent Child Abuse Illinois' Program Excellence Award, and a 100% volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to saving the lives of newborn infants who might otherwise be unsafely abandoned in Illinois.

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