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Bubba and Angie Watson Announced as New National Council For Adoption Spokespersons

March 2, 2015 – Alexandria, VA – National Council For Adoption (NCFA) is proud to announce Bubba and Angie Watson as new national spokespersons. Throughout 2015, the Watsons will be involved in efforts to raise awareness about domestic adoption in a partnership with NCFA, a non-profit organization with a mission to meet the diverse needs of all those touched by adoption.

The two-time Masters Champion and his wife are adoptive parents to two children, both of whom were adopted as infants. After going through the entire adoption process firsthand, the Watsons were inspired to use their experience and lend their voices to encourage others to learn more about adoption – whether a young woman facing unintended pregnancy, or individuals hoping to become parents and build a family. An estimated 18,000 infants and more than 76,000 older children are adopted each year. However, more than 101,000 children are waiting to be adopted, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

"Angie and I have been incredibly blessed by the gift of adoption. Our kids mean everything to us, and every day we're excited to watch them grow and learn something new," says Bubba Watson. "We want to give them the best life possible, and it breaks our hearts to think so many kids out there don't have a family of their own – and that there are people out there who might not understand just how awesome adoption is."

"We are so excited to work with National Council For Adoption to shine a light on the wonderful gift of adoption," Angle adds.

Through their partnership with NCFA, Bubba and Angie Watson will raise awareness about the positive option of adoption and serve as advocates for children waiting to be adopted. The Watsons are currently filming a series of National Council For Adoption public service announcements, which will be released in spring 2015. As Honorary Co-Chairs of NCFA's 35th Anniversary Great Expectations Gala, Angie Watson will share her family's personal adoption journey as the keynote speaker at the event on November 5, 2015, in Washington, DC.

"We are delighted to welcome Bubba and Angie to our team as national spokespersons," says Chuck Johnson, president and CEO of National Council For Adoption. "The Watsons share our belief that *every* child deserves to have a loving and permanent family. We are honored to work with them to enhance the national dialogue around adoption, which will hopefully lead to more children coming home to a family."

NCFA's 35 years of advocacy and education programs have served millions of children, birth parents, adopted individuals, adoptive families, and adoption professionals worldwide. For more information about adoption or to get involved, visit www.AdoptionCouncil.org.

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ABOUT BUBBA AND ANGIE WATSON

Known for incredible shot-making, mammoth drives, a hot pink shafted driver and an electric personality, Bubba Watson is an all American superstar. Born in Pensacola, FL and raised in nearby Bagdad, he learned to play golf by hitting whiffle-balls around the house as a kid. After a successful junior career, he landed a golf scholarship to the University of Georgia before going on to win 7 times on the PGA tour including the prestigious Master's tournament twice. While at the University of Georgia, he met his future wife Angie Ball. Like Bubba, Angie is an accomplished athlete having played basketball for the University of Georgia and in the WNBA before injuries forced an early retirement.

Bubba and Angie have two children and are committed Christians who share a passion for philanthropy and dedicate as much time as possible to giving back. In January of 2014 they formed the Bubba Watson Foundation, Inc. in an effort to enhance their ability to make a difference. In keeping with the Watson's historical philanthropic efforts, the Foundation's areas of focus include faith, families and the U.S. Military.

ABOUT NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR ADOPTION

Founded in 1980, National Council For Adoption (NCFA) is a global adoption advocacy nonprofit that promotes a culture of adoption through education, research, legislative action, and collaboration. As the authoritative voice for adoption, NCFA's areas of focus include domestic infant adoption, adoption and permanency outcomes for youth in foster care, and intercountry adoption. Passionately committed to the belief that every child deserves to thrive in a nurturing, permanent family, NCFA serves children, birth parents, adopted individuals, adoptive families, and adoption professionals. In addition, we work tirelessly to serve and educate U.S. and foreign government officials and policymakers, members of the media, and all those in the general public with an interest in adoption.

For more information, visit <u>www.AdoptionCouncil.org</u>.