



You are destined to become is the person you decide to be.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

How does Teen Court Work?

The Teen Court Program is run by teens for teens. It is a “hands on” educational opportunity that allows both offenders and volunteers to better understand our system of justice.

A youth referred to Teen Court has his/her case argued by teenage prosecutors and defense attorneys before a jury of peers, consisting of volunteers from the high school, middle school and prior offenders sentenced to jury service.

Becoming A Teen Officer

Teen Court Training

The teens are educated with regard to courtroom personnel, criminal procedures and rules of evidence. The students are faced with the difficult task of determining appropriate sanctions for individuals who have admitted involvement in criminal acts. Each offense is categorized into a particular class, which guides possible sanctions to be imposed.

The juvenile offender is appointed a volunteer teen defense attorney. A volunteer teen prosecutor is assigned to represent the State.

Each hearing is held in the Roysse City Court Municipal Room before a Judge. At the conclusion of each case, the jury retires to deliberate to determine the appropriate sanctions to be imposed based upon the nature and facts of the case.

Officer Positions

- ❖ **Prosecuting Attorney** present cases against youth offenders. They represent the State and try to convince the Teen Court jury that the defendant deserves a punishment for his/her offense.
- ❖ **Defense-Attorney** represent youth offenders. They try to convince the Teen Court jury as to why the defendant should receive a lower punishment for his/her offense.

❖ **Baliff** provides the courtroom, and its occupants with security by making sure they are safe. Their job ranges from ensuring people are not armed as they enter the courtroom and confiscating any unauthorized weapons

GET INVOLVED>>>

❖ **Judge**-interpret and apply laws and precedents to determine outcomes or make rulings on legal matters.

They often oversee trials, hearings and other legal proceedings to make sure they're handled fairly under the law.

The key to successful leadership is influence, not authority.
-Kenneth Blanchard

❖ **Jury Member** sit with other youth who may be volunteers or who may be in the Teen Court program as a defendant and listen to cases and help determine a fair punishment.



YOUTH COURT

Join Teen Court Today! You will:

- ✦ build your college application
- ✦ Improve your communication skills
- ✦ Enhance your public speaking
- ✦ Strengthen your Organizational skills
- ✦ Become detailed oriented