



VOLUNTEERS

Teen Court relies upon volunteers, both youth and adults to take on key roles in our program. Teen volunteers act as attorneys, bailiffs, and clerks during court proceedings. Adult volunteers take the role of jury room supervisors, contract writers, instruct classes and supervise Juvenile Court audit teams. For further information on volunteering, please contact the Teen Court office.

For further information, please contact:

Citrus County Teen Court
110 N. Apopka Ave.
Inverness, FL 34450

Phone: (352) 341-6722
Fax: (352) 341-6739



Any person requiring reasonable accommodation at Teen Court because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the County Administrator's Office, 110 N. Apopka Ave, Inverness, FL 34450 (352) 341-6560, at least two days before Teen Court. If you are hearing or speech impaired, use the TTY telephone (352) 341-6580.

http://www.bocc.citrus.fl.us/suppserv/teen_court.html



TEEN COURT

Established 1999

CITRUS COUNTY COURT ALTERNATIVES
Div. of Community Support Services

WHAT IS TEEN COURT?

The Citrus County Teen Court Program targets youth, age 13-17 who have committed first-time misdemeanor and felony offenses.

- Teen Court is an alternative program where teen volunteers serve as jurors, prosecuting attorneys, defense attorneys, bailiffs, and clerks.
- Teen defendants, who must admit guilt to be accepted into the program, are sanctioned by a jury of his or her peers.
- The program receives referrals from local law enforcement agencies, Department of Juvenile Justice, Offices of the State Attorney, and judges.

Teen Court judges are the only adult with an active role in the court proceedings. They are typically local attorneys who volunteer their time.

ADVANTAGES OF TEEN COURT

When all conditions and sanctions are completed, the charges in the case are not filed.

OBJECTIVES OF TEEN COURT

- To increase awareness of the law.
- To encourage the offender to accept responsibility for his or her behavior.
- To decrease the rate of recidivism (re-offense).
- To assist teens to make better decisions in the future by involving them in the judicial process.

SENTENCING

Sentencing is imposed by the teen jury members and is designed to be constructive and involve the defendant actively in the community, as well as in future Teen Court sessions.



Citrus County Historic Courthouse

SANCTIONS

There are 7 mandatory sanctions of sentencing:

1. Community service hours
2. Jury duty
3. Educational classes
4. Public apology to the parent(s) or guardian(s)
5. 200 word essay and speech on "What I Learned in Teen Court"
6. Juvenile Court audit
7. Jail tour

Other sanctions may include:

1. Write letters of apology
2. Referral for substance abuse assessment or anger management classes
3. Curfew
4. No association with codefendant(s) or victim(s)
5. Write essays on specifically assigned topics
6. Random drug and alcohol screening