



Welcome

Orleans Parish Juvenile Court

Orleans Parish Juvenile Court serves the people of Orleans Parish by handling all juvenile matters, specifically, delinquency cases, juvenile status offenses, Child in Need of Care proceedings, adoptions, voluntary transfers of custody, termination of parental rights, and juvenile traffic tickets.

The Orleans Parish Juvenile Court provides a court of excellence for children, youth, and families by enforcing the Louisiana Children's Code.

Benefits of Teen Court

Positive peer pressure sends a clear message to the offenders about their behavior. Teen Court reduces the likelihood of repeat offenses and serves as a positive learning experience.

Teen Court offers the teen volunteer an opportunity to experience positive leadership roles.

Both teen offenders and teen volunteers learn about due process and the benefits of volunteering to improve their community.

ORLEANS PARISH TEEN COURT



How to Get Involved

For more information contact:

Orleans parish Juvenile Court
Teen Court Program Office

Dr. Clarence Bickham
(504) 658-9583

TEEN COURT
PEER COURT
YOUTH COURT

JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER
1100-B Milton Street
New Orleans, LA 70122
Phone: (504) 658-9500
Fax: (504) 658-9556

What is Teen Court?

Youth courts (also called teen, peer, and student courts) are programs in which youth are sentenced by their peers for minor crimes, offenses, and/or violations.

Youth court programs are intended to offer an alternative to the traditional juvenile justice system and school disciplinary proceedings.

The goal of Teen Court is to cultivate academic improvements, problem-solving capabilities, conflict resolution skills, positive peer-on-peer contact, and positive youth-on-professional contact. Teen Court aims to empower all participants with the ability to make good life decisions, decrease juvenile delinquency and recidivism while increasing positive behavior, community awareness, and a sense of safer communities.

Why Teen Court?

The philosophy of Teen Court is to use peer pressure as a positive force that holds the teen offenders accountable for their actions. In Teen Court, the emphasis is on restorative justice, seeking to repair the harm done to the victim and community.

How Does Teen Court Work?

Youth volunteers serve as judges. Defendants are questioned by the teen defense and prosecution attorneys to determine the circumstances of the offense. After careful consideration of the facts and circumstances, the teen jury determines a fair and constructive sentence, which may include community service and participation in future teen court sessions, counseling, attending educational programs, writing essays, and letters of apology to victim.



What is the Participation Criteria?

- Must be a first-time misdemeanor offense
- Offender must admit involvement/guilt
- Offender must be between ages 12 and 17 at the time of the offense
- Offender and parent must agree to participate in the program

VOLUNTEER ROLES

Youth Volunteer Positions

- Judge
- Jury
- Bailiff
- Jury
- Attorney (Prosecution and Defense)

Adult Volunteer Positions

- Committee Member
- Judge Teen Attorney Assistant
- Jury Monitor
- Training Session Presenter
- Workshop Presenter