

ONEIDA COUNTY YOUTH COURT

YOUTH COURT JUROR STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

I, _____, a volunteer of the Oneida County Youth Court, do hereby recognize my responsibility to uphold the confidentiality of all matters dealt with during confidential Oneida County Youth Court proceedings. I also understand that my failure to uphold this oath of confidentiality will result in an immediate termination of being a future juror and possible member of the Oneida County Youth Court, and I understand my obligation to the community to uphold all matters dealt with during the Oneida County Youth Court, and to keep all details confidential.

(Youth Court Juror)

(Date)

JURY VERDICT WORKSHEET

Offender Name: _____

Youth Court Hearing Date: ____/____/____

1. Review the rules for jury deliberation.
2. As a group, review the facts of the case. Also, discuss your impressions of what you saw and heard during the hearing.

Type of Offense: _____

Prosecution Sentencing Recommendation: _____

Defense Sentencing Recommendation: _____

Facts: _____

Impressions: _____

3. How were the following affected by the offender's actions?

Offender: _____

Offender's family: _____

Victim(s): _____

Community (school): _____

Other: _____

4. What has the offender done to make up for his/her actions? _____

5. What does the offender need to do to make up for his/her actions? _____

6. Write the recommended sentence on the Jury Verdict Form.

7. Write why the jury feels this is the most appropriate sentence on the Jury Verdict Form.

8. Have the Jury Foreperson sign the Jury Verdict Form.

Suggestions for Jurors:

- ◆ How would you feel if someone stole or vandalized something of yours?
- ◆ Who is your role model and why?
- ◆ Define theft and how it affects our community
- ◆ Define vandalism and how it affects our community
- ◆ Cut out four articles on crime, define the crime in each article and summarize. Include your own suggestion for punishment for each crime
- ◆ Smoking (and or drinking/doing drugs) is proven to be harmful. Create a presentation for younger students describing the harmful effects.
- ◆ Define 5 drugs and describe their harmful effects.
- ◆ Explain the reasons, if any, why you committed a crime.
- ◆ Explain any influences (peers, TV, music, relatives, etc.) you have encountered which lead you to commit a crime.
- ◆ Letter(s) of Apology to: victim, arresting officer, teacher, principal, any others involved in incident.
- ◆ Jury Duty – service at least once is a requirement. More may be added if deemed appropriate
- ◆ What I learned from my Youth Court experience.
- ◆ The costs to the public in terms of shoplifting and how I can better spend my time
- ◆ The consequences of peer pressure
- ◆ How to think before you act
- ◆ Lessons learned from stealing
- ◆ What are my goals in life?
- ◆ Ways to earn money to prevent stealing
- ◆ The importance of school
- ◆ Why smoking is bad for your health
- ◆ What does the word responsible mean to you?
- ◆ Curfews
- ◆ Limited home restrictions
- ◆ Chores at home
- ◆ Apology to parents
- ◆ How to avoid negative peer pressure
- ◆ Tutoring
- ◆ Workshops in anger management, conflict resolution, shoplifting prevention and substance abuse awareness
- ◆ Peer impact panel
- ◆ Victim impact panel
- ◆ A research project (if appropriate)
- ◆ Community service at approved sites
- ◆ Jail Tour

Oneida County Youth Court

JURY SENTENCE

Name of Offender: _____

Case Number: _____

Date: ____/____/____

JURY SENTENCE:

1.) _____

2.) _____

3.) _____

4.) _____

I, _____, understand the sentence given me in the Oneida County Youth Court and I agree to its terms. Failure to comply with my sentence will result in referral back to the originating agency for further disposition. Failure to complete my sentence within the designated period will also result in referral back to the originating agency.

Signature of Youth Court Director: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Signature of Offender: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Signature of Legal Guardian: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Signature of Jury Foreperson: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Signature of Judge _____ Date: ____/____/____

Youth Court Options For Curbing Attendance Problems

Solution	Purpose
<u>Essay</u> - Who is your role model and why?	Get offender to think about who they respect and why, in hopes of making them realize that true role models are responsible. Violating rules and laws is not the path to becoming a respected person.
<u>Essay</u> - Explain the reasons, if any, why you committed a crime/offense.	Get the offender to think about why they committed an offense and why they made a poor decision.
<u>Essay</u> - Explain any influences (peers, TV, music, relatives, etc.) you have encountered which lead you to commit a crime.	Encourage the offender to explore the negative influences in his/her life that might lead him/her to exhibit inappropriate behavior. They may be able to pinpoint people/factors that contribute to his/her poor decisions.
<u>Essay</u> - What does the word responsible mean to you?	Get the offender to think about what it means to be responsible and be a model citizen
<u>Essay</u> - What I learned from my Youth Court experience.	Allow the offender to reflect on the entire process, from the time he/she was disciplined to the rehabilitation process, where he/she will have hopefully learned a great deal.
<u>Essay</u> - The importance of school	Challenge the offender to come up with reasons/examples of why school and education pay off. This will hopefully modify their negative view of school, class and education.
<u>Essay</u> - What are my goals in life?	Get the offender to think short and long-term about what he/she would like to accomplish and where he/she would like to be. Ideally, they will realize that almost all goals involve responsibility.
<u>Essay</u> - The consequences of peer pressure.	Encourage the offender to think about the impact peer pressure can have on one's decisions and action, both positively and negatively.
<u>Essay</u> - How to avoid negative peer pressure	Similar to the above, focusing on how peer pressure can be dangerous and how one can go about avoiding it. This will hopefully encourage the offender to both avoid situations with negative peer pressure and to also make better decisions when faced with it.
<u>Essay</u> – Positives of attendance	Puts the offender in a position to understand the importance of good attendance and will hopefully make them realize this in the future. This will hopefully prevent similar behavior in the future.
<u>Jury Duty</u> – Service at least once is a requirement (up to three times).	Forces the offender to re-examine his/her decision once more and puts it into context when he/she sees his/her case compared to another student's.
<u>Jail Tour</u> (Only for more severe offenses)	Allows the offender to see where he/she may end up if their irresponsible behavior continues.
<u>School clean-up</u>	As part of community service, helps offender realize the consequences of disrespect for school as he/she helps clean walls, grounds, halls, etc. dirtied, damaged or vandalized by apathetic students. This also helps them feel connected to the school, hopefully enough that they will be discouraged and discourage others from dirtying school property.
<u>Sheet signed by teacher</u>	If a student is missing a particular class or having trouble with a specific teacher, this option will give the offender the opportunity to make it up with that specific teacher, with the teacher signing off on good/adequate behavior/attendance as part of completing the Youth Court process.
<u>Stay after with a certain teacher</u>	Similar to the above, this allows an offender to make up lost/missed work with a specific teacher.
<u>Mandatory Talk with Youth Court Volunteers</u>	Following the offender's case, he or she will speak with each Youth Court volunteer. These volunteers go to school with the offenders. They will offer them positive guidance and express their desire to see the offender avoid similar behavior in the future. Hopefully, this will convey the message that it is not "cool" or "popular" to break rules or laws.
<u>Letter to a certain teacher</u>	Similar to the above, this allows the offender the opportunity to personally apologize to a specific teacher whose class was missed, was disrespected, etc. This forces the offender to put himself/herself in the adult's shoes to fully realize the consequences of the offender's actions.
<u>Meet/Interview CEO or other businessperson</u>	This allows the offender the opportunity to see how their school behavior would affect them in the "real world," if they had a job.
<u>Write/Research a Life Plan</u>	This gives the offender the opportunity to research and discover the relatively few options that will be open to them should they choose to ignore school.