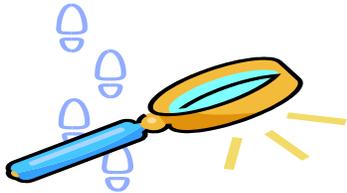


Oneida County Youth Court



Director

Youth Court is supervised, and daily operations are overseen by a Director. The Director works with offenders, families, jurors, members, law enforcement agencies, the Probation Department, and others in the community to ensure that Youth Court is effective in its mission to be constructive, rehabilitative and educational. An advisory board assists in formulating operational procedure and policy.

Oneida County Youth Court

**Oneida County Probation
Department
321 Main Street, 2nd floor
Utica, New York 13501
798-5914**



*** Member of the Association of
New York State Youth Courts**



**Justice for Youth
by Youth**



What is Youth Court?

Youth Court is a voluntary alternative to the criminal justice system for young people who have committed a crime or offense. The goal of Youth Court is to intervene in early anti-social, delinquent, and criminal behavior, and to reduce the incidence and prevent the escalation of such behavior. Youth Court strives to promote self-esteem and a desire for self-improvement, and to foster a healthy attitude towards rules and authority. Youth Court also offers a law-related education program for students seeking to become members of the court.

Membership Requirements

Members of Youth Court consist of students ages 13-18 who have successfully completed a law related education training program. Areas of instruction include an overview of the criminal justice system, operation of youth court, the penal law, sentencing issues, rules of evidence, and disposition options. The training program concludes with a mock hearing and an exam.

What types of cases are heard?

Cases are generally referred by judges, police officers, probation departments or schools to the Youth Court Director who accepts cases based upon established criteria. Typical cases that may be heard include shoplifting, criminal mischief, larceny, harassment, disorderly conduct and school violations.

What happens in Youth Court?

A student between the ages of 11-17 who has admitted guilt to a crime or an offense as a first time offender appears for a disposition hearing before a jury of peers. The key players of the court include the judge, prosecuting attorney, defense attorney, and jury, and are drawn from young people who wish to volunteer to participate. The jury is presented with evidence relevant to the case and decides on an appropriate disposition. Dispositions typically include community service, restitution, letters of apology, counseling, as well as other rehabilitative goals.

For more information contact:

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