

Charles County Teen Court



Youth Volunteer Application

Date of Application: _____ Referral Source: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Gender: Male _____ Female _____

Parent(s) or Guardian(s) name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone#: Home _____ Cell _____

E-mail: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Contact: _____ Relationship to Applicant _____

Address: _____

Telephone#: (Home) _____ (Work) _____

Any medical conditions or allergies that would affect your ability to participate in Teen Court? Yes () No ()

If yes, please explain:

I affirm that the above information provided is true and correct and I solemnly declare that I will keep confidential any information that comes to my knowledge in the course of a Teen Court session. I will not identify directly or indirectly, either audibly or in writing, any person participating as a respondent in the Teen Court Program.

Volunteer Signature: _____ Date: _____

The Charles County Teen Court Code of Conduct (below) is strictly enforced. Please review prior to completing your application. Please do not submit an application if you are not prepared to fully comply with the code of conduct.

Behavior & Protocol

Teen Court participants should arrive by 5:15 p.m. and sign in with the Teen Court Coordinator or other Teen Court staff members as directed. Participants will follow the directions of the Teen Court staff and are expected to display appropriate behaviors at all times, which includes being courteous and respectful, maintaining an acceptable demeanor, and refraining from the use of obscene language or gestures. There is to be no eating, drinking, or gum chewing in the courtroom. Smoking in or outside the building is strictly prohibited. Running in the hallways or wandering through the building is not permitted. During Teen Court proceedings, participants are expected to pay attention, refrain from private conversations, and avoid laughing and making loud noises. Once the hearing has begun, participants will not be allowed to leave the courtroom. Teen court participants should not display facial expressions, nodding or shaking of heads, or other conduct that might indicate personal feelings or opinions about what is happening during the proceedings. These are real cases and deviation from the expected norms of the program will not be tolerated and will result in dismissal from the program. Finally, all questions and concerns should be directed to the Teen Court Staff.

Cell Phone & Electronics Policy

You are allowed to have your cell phone with you on Teen Court nights. However, once you enter into the courthouse the cell phone must be powered off.

Dress

All participants are expected to wear appropriate attire. Males should wear pants and collared shirts or sweaters. Females should wear pants, skirts or dresses that reach at least fingertip length (school regulation). Good grooming and hygiene is expected. **If dress code is not followed you will be asked to leave or you may be allowed participate but will not receive any credit for that night's participation.**

YOUTH PHOTO RELEASE

I hereby grant staff members of the Charles County Sheriff's Office and press organizations covering Teen Court events permission to take photographs of the minor named below or photographs in which the minor may be involved with others for the purpose of promoting the **Charles County Teen Court Program**.

I _____ certify that I am 18 or older, and am able to contract for the minor in the above regard. I have read the above statement and fully understand its contents.

Name of Minor: _____

Relationship to Minor: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date: _____

The importance of honoring the confidentiality agreement cannot be overstated. The business of appearing before the Teen Court is a personal matter. All aspects of the Teen Court session are considered CONFIDENTIAL. Failure to respect and honor this agreement will result in dismissal from participation in the program.

My child and I have discussed their proposed participation in the Charles County Teen Court Program. I support his/her decision to participate as a Teen Court volunteer. I understand that I will need to provide transportation for my child to and from the Teen Court program. Teen court is held at the Charles County Court House on Charles Street in the town of La Plata and generally ends between 8:30 PM and 9:00 PM.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name (Please Print) _____