



CITY OF HIGHLAND VILLAGE TEEN COURT PROGRAM

Eligibility

Teenagers 10 through 18 years old, and others currently enrolled in schools that receive Class C citations are eligible to participate in the Teen Court Program.

Participation in Teen Court is based on an admission of guilt. Before enrolling, teens must appear before a Municipal Judge or a Justice of the Peace, with parent or guardian (if under 17), and enter a plea of guilty or no contest. The choice of Teen Court is an alternative to paying the fine.

Participation is voluntary. Defendants may choose at any time to pay the fine(s) established for their specific offense(s).

Benefits

Successful completion of Teen Court requirements within the specified time frame results in dismissal of the case(s) which keeps the offense(s) off the Teen's record. Additionally, the teen becomes acquainted with the judicial system and experiences the satisfaction of contributing to the community, while gaining valuable work experience.

Sign Up

Enrollment in the Teen Court Program must be done at the initial appearance, after the defendant has entered a plea in the original court and is deemed eligible for Teen Court.

Dress and Behavior Code

The courtroom is a formal and very serious place, commanding respect from all who participate in the proceedings. Teen Court requires all participants to dress accordingly. Shorts are not appropriate wear for the courtroom. The use of tobacco products, obscene or profane language and horseplay is prohibited. Eating, drinking or the use of gum is prohibited in the courtroom. **NO WEAPONS ARE ALLOWED!**

Teen Court reserves the right to refuse to hear cases from those who fail to abide by the outlined dress and behavior code.

Cost

Each defendant is assessed a non-refundable court cost of \$20.00 for each citation. Fees must be paid at the initial hearing in the Municipal Court.

Disciplinary Grid

Punishment consists of a specific number of community service hours plus additional requirements set forth by the court.

CLASS 1 - Includes but not limited:

1-20 COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS, and additional court requirements

- Defective lights/Equipment Violation
- No Helmet
- No seatbelt
- Anti-noise violation
- Following to close
- No turn Signal
- Speeding 1-10 mph
- Littering
- Skating/Biking where prohibited

CLASS 2 - Includes but not limited:

10-30 COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS, and additional court requirements

- Driver's license violations
- Disobey traffic control device
- Wrong side of street
- Impeding traffic
- One-way street
- Unsafe lane change
- Speeding 11-20 mph
- Failed to yield right of way
- City park curfew violation

CLASS 3 - Includes but not limited:

20-50 COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS, and additional court requirements

- Speeding 21-40 mph
- Speeding-School Zone
- Accident Offense
- Failure to maintain financial responsibility
- Failure to identify
- Racing-exhibition of speed
- Passing school bus
- Leaving scene of accident
- Driving when unlicensed
- Illegal burning (no burn ban)

CLASS 4 - Includes but not limited:

30-60 COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS, and additional court requirements

- Speeding +40 mph
- Illegal burning (burn ban)
- Assault/Fighting
- Foul or Abusive Language
- Possession of drug paraphernalia
- Alcohol offenses
- Tobacco offenses
- Theft under \$100.00
- Disruption of class
- Criminal mischief
- Gang Affiliation
- Disorderly Conduct
- (All other penal code offenses)