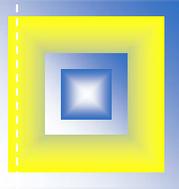


**Copperas
Cove
Teen Court**





What is Teen Court?

Teen Court is a specially designed court that hears only certain Class “C” misdemeanor offenses, excluding the following offenses:

- Drug, alcohol, or tobacco
- Failure to stop/passing a school bus,
- Speeding 25+ miles over the posted limit
- Offenses in a work zone
- Assault charges

Teen attorneys defend and prosecute individual cases and a jury of teens renders the verdict. The Judge for Copperas Cove Municipal Court serves as the Teen Court Judge. All Teen Court sessions are open to the public.

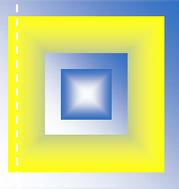
Benefits of Teen Court?

If a teen successfully completes all of the Teen Court Requirements within the predetermined time frame, the case at hand will be dismissed. In addition, the teen will familiarize himself/herself with the judicial system and will garner work experience while assisting the community.

- Develop critical thinking skills
- Learn to work as a team
- Develop public speaking skills
- Learn about criminal justice
- Meet many different people
- Earn community service
- Gain experience for college

Who is eligible for Teen Court?

- Is between the ages of 13 and 17 (some 18 years olds may be eligible)
- Has received a Class “C” misdemeanor, excluding the offense listed above
- Appears in Municipal Court, with a parent or guardian
- Pleads Guilty or *Nolo Contendre*
- Must attend Copperas Cove High School
- Have not participated (as a defendant) in the past 24 months
- Remain a student in an accredited secondary school while completing the teen court sentence



Enrollment

To sign up for the Teen Court program, you must contact the coordinator after you, the defendant, have entered a plea of “guilty” or “*nolo contendere*” in open court and have met the Teen Court eligibility criteria. The judge will then decide whether or not to grant your request to be seen in Teen Court. If so, the coordinator will notify you of the court date. Additionally, you must notify the Teen Court office as well as the original court if you move or change your residence.

Teen Court Penalties (includes but not limited to the following:)

Penalties consist of Community Service (CS) hours and required jury service. Offenses are categorized into five classes:

Class 1:

5-15 hours CS + 1-2 jury terms. Includes individual seat belt, vehicle equipment, and parking,

Class 2:

10-20 hours CS + 1-3 jury terms. Includes expired driver's license, traffic light, stop sign, fail to yield/signal, speeding 1-9 mph over the limit, and noise violations.

Class 3:

20-40 hours CS + 2-3 jury terms. Includes speeding 10-24 mph over the limit, third party seat belt violations, speeding 1-24 mph over in a school zone, driving without a license, and following too close (non-collision)

Class 4:

30-50 hours CS + 2-4 jury terms. Includes public order, handicap parking, Criminal Mischief, and FMFR.

Class 5:

40-60 CS + 3-4 jury terms. Any violation involving a collision and theft under \$50.00.

