



# NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT • COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

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## **NORTH COUNTY COURT HOSTS YOUTH DAY ACTIVITIES**

In an effort to introduce elementary through high school students to the local legal culture, Judges, staff and members of the Bar Association of North San Diego County (BANSDC) will host the fourth annual "Youth in Court" event at the North County Regional Center on Friday, March 11.

Through a partnership with BANSDC, the court will host 500 students from 18 elementary and middle school classrooms by treating them to mock trials in actual courtrooms. The students have been studying the court's *On My Honor* program in their classrooms, with the court visit as the program highlight.

An afternoon career fair will serve over 500 high school students and will provide information on job opportunities in law enforcement, corrections, prosecution, defense agencies, private North County law firms, court reporting, court interpreters, and the Superior Court. Representatives from Mira Costa and Palomar Colleges will be on hand with details on their paralegal and administration of justice programs.

Ten separate sessions in the afternoon will also offer educational seminars that include a felony trial reenactment of closing arguments from an actual trial where a young man was convicted of killing two of his close friends while driving drunk. In another program, a defendant reenacts his own sentencing in a gang-related drive-by shooting. These interactive seminars will also include a mock jury voir dire on a death penalty trial, a mock jury deliberation on a road rage case, and many other current topics of interest in the law.

This award-winning program is the most comprehensive program of its kind in the state. Over 1,000 students from ages 9-19 will be learning firsthand the importance of the justice system in our community.