



NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA • COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
Post Office Box 120128 • San Diego, CA 92112-0128

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Ninth Annual “Youth In Court Day” Set For North County Court

*Event includes presentation by a Torrey Pines High School senior
currently jailed for a fatal accident.*

North County students will gain first-hand knowledge about the San Diego Superior Court system and some of the tragic circumstances that can lead them into that court system. For the ninth straight year, the “Youth in Court Day” will be held at the Superior Court in Vista. The day-long event will be held on Friday, March 5, 2010.

More than 900 students from North County schools are expected to attend this year’s event. The judges and staff of the Superior Court will join with the North County Bar Association and the North County Lawyer Referral Service to show the students how the justice system works and to expose them to job opportunities in law and law enforcement.

The day-long event includes morning mock trials for elementary and middle school students and educational sessions for high school students in the afternoon. Those diverse high school sessions include information on drug court, gangs and drunk driving. In a presentation titled “Drunken Driving Disaster,” a Torrey Pines senior who is currently incarcerated for killing one of his best friends in a drunk driving accident will talk about the devastating consequences of the event. *(ATTENTION MEDIA: This session will be held in Department 20. Judge Joan P. Weber will allow cameras in to cover this presentation but has ordered that the young man’s face be tilted and that he be referred to by his first name only.)*

(MORE)

“We are looking forward to another exciting day of activities. Given the high number of fatal DUI accidents involving North County high school students in the last year, we are hoping the drunk driving presentation will grab the attention of these high school seniors as they get ready for prom and graduation,” says Superior Court Judge Joan P. Weber, one of the organizers of the event.

The mock trials will start a 9:00 A.M. and 10:30 A.M. The educational sessions begin at 1:00 P.M. and 2:00 P.M. In 2005, the *Youth in Court Day* program received a national award from the American Bar Association touting it as one of the best outreach programs in the country.

2010 YOUTH IN COURT DAY

WHAT: *Youth in Court*, a nationally awarded program, is held once a year at the North County Courthouse in Vista. The goal of *Youth in Court* day is to expose North County grade, middle and high school students to various aspects of the state judicial system.

WHEN: **9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. – Friday, March 5, 2010**

WHERE: North County Courthouse
325 South Melrose Drive, Vista

WHO: San Diego Superior Court
Bar Association of Northern San Diego County
Lawyer Referral Service

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