



NEWS RELEASE

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

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Contact: Karen Dalton
Phone: (619) 844-2353

19th Annual Youth in Court Day Focuses on Teen Issues

San Diego's North County Superior Court continues its tradition of bringing students to the courthouse to talk about modern issues and their legal consequences during the 19th Annual *Youth in Court Day*. The event, sponsored by the North County Division of the San Diego Superior Court in conjunction with the North County Bar Association and The Lawyer Referral Service, will be held on **Friday, March 6, 2020**.

More than 900 students are expected to attend the day-long event where they will be introduced to the court system to learn about present day problems that pass through the courthouse.

North County attorneys will collaborate with judges and court staff to meet with students and discuss how the judicial system operates. In addition, students will also be exposed to career opportunities in legal systems and law enforcement. While the afternoon sessions are directed toward high school students, the one-day event will include morning mock trials for elementary and middle school students.

(MORE)

This year's spotlight presentation will be "*Stories from Drug Court*". During this presentation, high school students will hear from former drug addicts who have been through the criminal justice system and who are now on the long, challenging road to recovery. The presentation will take place at 12:30 p.m. in the North County Superior Court's jury lounge.

The mock trials will begin at 9:00 a.m. for elementary and middle school students. The educational sessions begin at 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. *Youth in Court Day*, which received a National Community Outreach Award from the American Bar Association in 2005, has attracted more than 10,000 students since its inception.

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2020 YOUTH IN COURT DAY

- WHAT:** *Youth in Court Day*, 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's elementary, middle, and high school students to various aspects of the state's judicial system.
- WHEN:** **9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Friday, March 6, 2020**
- WHERE:** North County Courthouse
325 South Melrose Drive, Vista, CA 92081
- WHO:** San Diego Superior Court
North County Bar Association
Lawyer Referral Service (LRS) of the North County Bar Association

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19th Annual
YOUTH IN COURT DAY
presented by
The San Diego Superior Court, North County Division
in conjunction with
The North County Bar Association and The Lawyer Referral Service
March 6, 2020

GROUP PRESENTATION

LOCATION

12:00 - 1:15 p.m.

STORIES FROM DRUG COURT

JURY LOUNGE

Presented By: Judge Harry L. Powazek, San Diego Superior Court and staff

Students will hear firsthand from drug addicts who have been through the criminal justice system and who are now on the long and tough road towards recovery.

BREAK-OUT PRESENTATIONS

LOCATION

1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

WHY YOU NEED A CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYER

DEPT. 20

Presented By: Ryan Saunders, DDA and Amanda Edmonson, PD

Criminal defense attorneys are responsible for representing people charged with crimes. Students will learn how defense attorneys ensure their client's statutory and constitutional rights are protected throughout the criminal proceedings.

MOCK TRIAL: DATING VIOLENCE

DEPT. 21

Presented By: Helen Kim, DDA and Patricia Valdovinos, PD

Students will observe a mock trial scenario using a recent high-profile case. Students will observe a victim of domestic violence testify on the stand, and they will learn the complexities of testifying against a significant other.

MOCK TRIAL: BULLYING

DEPT. 22

Presented By: Christopher Campbell, DDA and Bryana Carey, PD

Students will learn firsthand how our criminal justice system works by participating in a mock trial for a case involving bullying and battery. Students will take on the roles of the prosecutor, defense attorney, witness and jury.

MOCK TRIAL: SOCIAL NETWORK NIGHTMARE

DEPT. 23

Presented By: Attorneys Ruth Webster, Ed Burns, Laura Handler and Jacques Kirch

Students will observe a mock trial about a high school senior who is suing a university for revoking her early admission and scholarship based on what she posted on her social media page about a fellow student's sexual orientation.

TEEN DATING ABUSE: RECOGNIZING THE RED FLAGS

DEPT. 25

Presented By: Natalie Villaflor, DDA and Lauren-Jane Stephenson, Women's Resource Center

Teen dating abuse is a pattern of behavior used to control and intimidate a partner. Students will learn to recognize the red flags of abuse at all stages of a relationship. Students will receive tips and be given resources to help themselves or a friend who may be in an abusive relationship.