

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEMBERS

- *Hands-on experience with actual legal cases.*
- *Become a positive role model.*
- *To meet and interact with peers.*
- *To provide our community with an invaluable service.*
- *References for college and/or job applications.*
- *Positive self-esteem.*

OPPORTUNITIES FOR OFFENDERS

- *An alternative to appearing in Family Court or Justice Court.*
- *A positive experience involving the justice system and peers.*
- *To participate as a juror on a future Youth Court case.*
- *To become a Youth Court member themselves after successful completion of their case.*

Become part of a winning team...

TOWN OF RIVERHEAD YOUTH COURT

A voluntary alternative to the traditional juvenile justice system for youth offenders



For further information contact:

**Riverhead Police Department
YOUTH COURT**
210 Howell Avenue
Riverhead, NY 11901

Phone: 631-727-4500 x273
E-mail: behr@townofriverheadny.gov



**TOWN OF RIVERHEAD
YOUTH COURT**

FOR YOUTH



BY YOUTH

Riverhead Youth Court
210 Howell Avenue
Riverhead, NY 11901

631-727-4500 x273

FOR YOUTH



Youth Court is...

A voluntary alternative to the traditional juvenile justice system for first time offenders who are under the age of 20 and who have committed a violation or a misdemeanor crime. Actual cases are referred from Suffolk County

Probation and Riverhead Justice Court and go to trial with our Riverhead Youth Court members serving as defense attorney, prosecuting attorney, judge, clerk, bailiff, jury foreperson and jury member.

The offender is held accountable for the crime they have committed by appearing before a court of their peers for a trial and/or sentence hearing.

The sentence they receive is in the form of community service projects, specialized assignments such as a written / verbal apology, essay, educational classes, jail tour or counseling sessions. With the addition of two hours of Youth Court jury duty, their sentence is completed.

What advantages does Youth Court offer the offender . . .

The opportunity to be judged by one's peers is a positive alternative to Family Court or Justice Court and has a more meaningful effect on the offender.

Team Trial Roles

- * Judge * Defense Attorney
- * Prosecuting Attorney * Clerk * Bailiff
- * Jury Foreperson * Jury Member



TOWN OF RIVERHEAD YOUTH COURT

What are the goals of Youth Court . . .

FOR THE OFFENDER:

The goal of Youth Court is to reduce repeat incidents of juvenile crime, prevent recidivism and delinquency through positive peer influence.

Youth Court gives the offender an opportunity to learn from their mistakes.

As a positive alternative to appearing before Family Court or Justice Court, Youth Court strives to promote positive self-esteem, a desire for self improvement and a healthy attitude toward rules and authority.

FOR THE YOUTH COURT MEMBER:

Youth Court offers interested high school students a better understanding of the law and the workings of the Justice Court System through many hours of training by law enforcement professionals.

In addition, members are able to develop their public speaking skills, learn effective debate techniques and provide their peers and community with an invaluable service.



All participants of Youth Court are
sworn to an
OATH OF CONFIDENTIALITY

BY YOUTH

Who can participate in Youth Court. . .

Youth Court members are volunteer students in grades 9th—12th who are trained to assume the roles of Judge, Prosecutor, Defense Attorney, Clerk-Bailiff, Jury Foreperson and Juror.

Upon completion of training, members are required to sign an Oath of Confidentiality and conduct sentence hearings in an actual courtroom setting.

Members are required to participate for a minimum of one (1) year.

Participating Schools . . .

- * Riverhead High School
- * Shoreham Wading River High School

Youth Court would not be possible without the assistance of . . .

Timothy C. Hubbard - Riverhead Town Supervisor
Denise Merrifield - Riverhead Town Councilwoman
Hon. Lori Hulse - Riverhead Town Justice
Hon. Sean Walter - Riverhead Town Justice
Chief Edward J. Frost - Riverhead Police Dept.
Lt. Brian Clements - Riverhead Police Dept.
PO Raymond Brogan - Riverhead Police Dept.
Suffolk County Probation Department

