

## **Role and Responsibilities of the Teen Court Jury**

Participates as a member of an eight person to twelve-person jury. Teen Court Jury determines the appropriate disposition for the Juvenile Offender after hearing the evidence and arguments during presentation of the case. The Jury must come to a unanimous decision, keeping in mind the assigned consequences are designed to hold the Juvenile Offender responsible for his/her actions, and require the Juvenile Offender to be accountable to the community and the Victim.

- A Teen Court Jury member determines appropriate and fair consequences for the Juvenile Offender. He/she must listen carefully to the facts of the case and pay close attention to the questioning of the Defense Attorney and the Prosecutor. The consequences should be designed to hold the Juvenile Offender responsible and accountable for his/her actions to the community and the Victim. The verdict should be proportional to the offense and should weigh the aggravating and mitigating factors presented during presentation of the case. A Teen Court Juror must be able to treat each case individually and without prejudice.
- Remember, community service is required (16-hour minimum, 40 hours maximum). The remainder of the disposition is optional and for the Jurors to use in their discretion.
- Teen Court Jurors are judicial representatives through their participation in Teen Court and must always act in a respectful and mature manner, taking seriously the duty of judging the conduct of the Juvenile Offender and determining a fair disposition.
- Jurors must select a Jury Chair, who will lead discussions, keep the group on task, and track time. Juror must select a Jury Recorder to complete the Disposition Form, which will be presented to the Judge.
- A unanimous agreement on the disposition is required.
- The Teen Court Jury will be assisted by an adult Jury Advocate.