

Teen Court Hearing

The day of you or your child's Teen Court hearing there are some guidelines that must be followed.

Dress Code:

Collared shirt or blouse

No large logos or designs on shirts

Long pants or skirts

Closed toed shoes

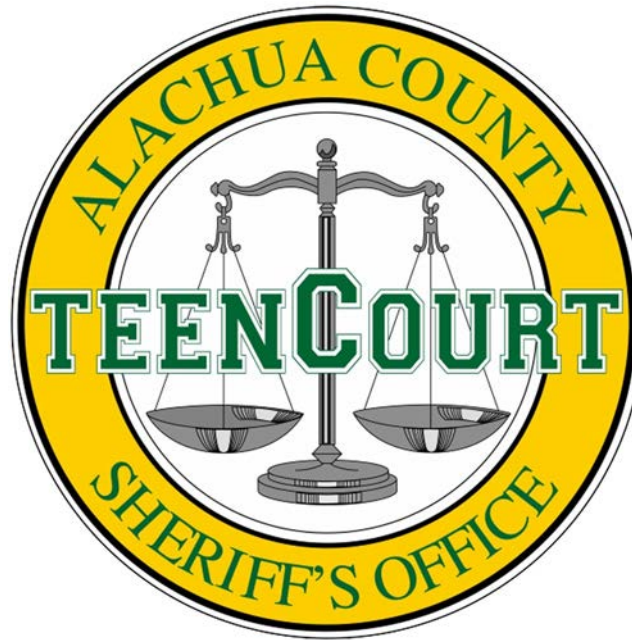
NO SHORTS OR SLIDES ARE PERMITTED

Shirts must be tucked in at all times

and pants must be worn at the waist

Defendants who are not dressed appropriately are not allowed to participate and will be asked to leave the courthouse.

Please arrive at the courthouse no later than 4:00PM in order to check in and hear further instructions. This will make things run smoothly and efficiently.



ALACHUA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
TEEN COURT PROGRAM



Olivia Hollier
Teen Court Coordinator

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Alachua County Sheriff's Office
Sheriff Clovis Watson, Jr.
2621 SE Hawthorne Road
Gainesville, FL 32641 352-367-4000
www.alachuasheriff.org

What is Teen Court?

Who are we?

Teen Court is a diversion/alternative sentencing program.

This program is provided by the Alachua County Sheriff's Office.

Teen Court offers juveniles throughout Alachua County an opportunity to earn an important second chance while teaching them the value of personal integrity and responsibility to their community.



Where are we?

The Teen Court Program intake offices are located at the Alachua County Sheriff's Office
2621 SE Hawthorne Road
Gainesville, FL 32641.



Why we do it :

According to the Florida Association of Teen Courts, teen courts are based on the philosophy that a youthful law violator is less likely to continue to be an offender when a jury of their peers decides the punishment. Giving a juvenile the chance to face their peers on both sides of the courtroom will allow them to fully understand the weight of their own action, by being apart of sentencing as well as being sentenced.

Process

I received a citation, what now?

If you or your child has been issued a Civil Citation by a law enforcement agency, the officer/deputy will direct you to call our office within 5 days.

Once you have made contact with our office and we have received our copy of the citation (provided to us by the officer/deputy), we will set up an intake appointment to begin the Teen Court process.

There are caseworkers assigned based on the last name of the defendant:

Brandon Johnson A - J (352) 367-4129

Greg Pelham K-Z (352) 367-4121

Teen Court Process

Teen Court is a sentencing hearing heard in the Alachua County Courthouse. It is held on Tuesday evenings from 4:00-7:00.

220 S Main St, Gainesville, FL 32601

Courtroom 1-A

The defendant will appear and speak in front of a group of their peers. Sentencing recommendations will be handed down by a jury that consists of middle and high school students, some in the Teen Court program, others are volunteers.

Sentencing

Sanctions (Punishments)

Sanctions are tailored to the circumstances of each defendant.

Misdemeanors (1st offense)

- 20-50 hours of community service
- 2-4 Mandatory Teen Court Jury Duty sessions
- Open court apology to parent
- Educational Class
- Essay



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