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## Teen Court Hearing

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

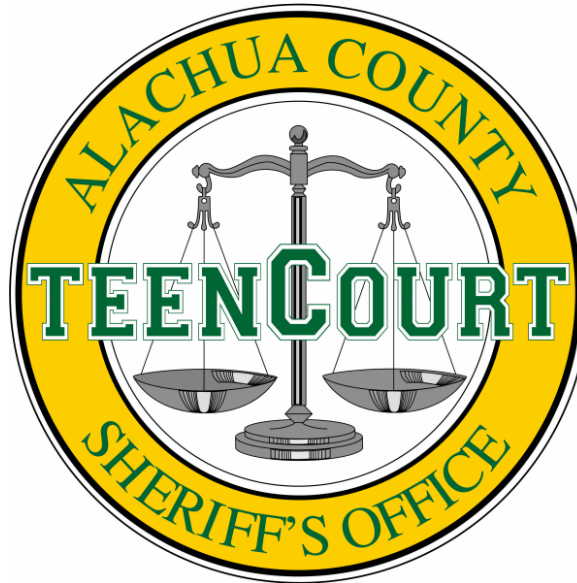
### Dress Code:

- 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 court-house.**

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

ACSO 18-01 (09/23)

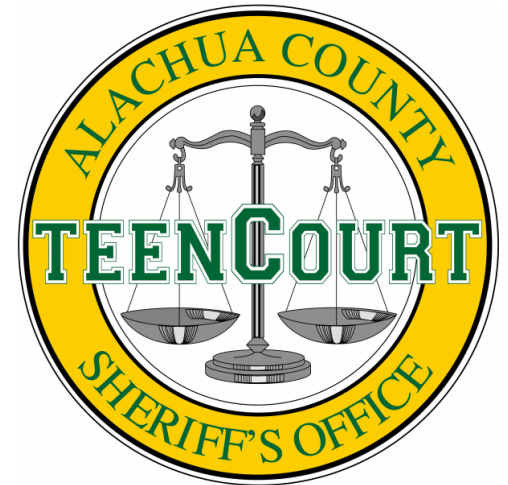


**ALACHUA COUNTY SHERIFF'S  
OFFICE  
TEEN COURT PROGRAM**

**Olivia Hollier  
Teen Court Coordinator**

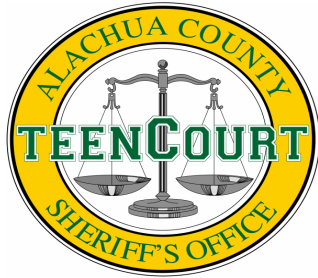
**Phone: (352) 367-4125**

**E-mail:  
ohollier@alachuasheriff.org**



**Alachua County Sheriff's Office**  
**2621 SE Hawthorne Road**  
**Gainesville, FL 32641**  
**352-367-4000**  
**[www.alachuasheriff.org](http://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.

## 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 case workers assigned based on the last name of the defendant:

**A - J (352) 367-4171**

**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 I-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
- Open court apology to parent
- Educational Class

### Felony

- 50-80 hours community service
- 4-6 Mandatory jury duty
- Open court apology to parent
- Educational Class

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**Phone: (352) 367-4125  
E-mail: [ohollier@alachuasheriff.org](mailto:ohollier@alachuasheriff.org)**