

### **Teen Court**

Teen Court is a diversion-like program, nested under the Municipal Court, based on restorative justice principles. It offers an alternative



to the traditional juvenile justice system for low-risk, first-time misdemeanor offenders. Juveniles are offered a deferred prosecution plea agreement and appear before a jury of their peers, who decide on an appropriate sentence. Teen Court holds juveniles accountable and uses positive peer pressure and creative alternative sentencing to promote long-term behavioral change. Youth volunteers, who are responsible for determining the sentences for their peers, are trained on how to perform questioning, utilize the principles of restorative justice, and develop a sentence that is best for each Teen Court respondent.

# **Christmas Party**



The Teen Court volunteers (pictured above) celebrated the holidays with Christmas cookies, a gift exchange, and lots of games. We appreciate all the effort these volunteers offer to ensure Teen Court gives a positive and rewarding experience to all participants. We love giving them a night to play and laugh to show our appreciation for all the hard work they do!

## **Respondent Feedback**

What part of Teen Court helped you the most and why?

"I was able to learn and reflect on what happened and then I went back to help out everyone I hurt. Community service was an important one to realize more about the less fortunate. I was able to help them which opened me up a bunch".

Did Teen Court help you learn what you can do differently in the future?

"Yes, I learned about peer pressure and now I know what kind of situations now to avoid."

"I will definitely not steal or attempt to again. Also I will better myself so my family and friends will have someone to look up to".

### **Parent Feedback**

Do you have any comments or suggestions about Teen Court?

"Wonderful opportunity for new offenders. Thank you very much for your services."

"We loved it. Think it helped her learn better decision making."

Do you believe your child will not make a similar choice in the future?

"Yes, she has an action plan in place if she is faced with a similar situation."

December 2017

## **Total cases filed in Castle Rock Municipal Court: 2016-2018**



		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
	2016	370	280	263	301	375	280	189	231	224	250	276	204	3,243
	2017	276	278	316	309	430	302	175	216	192	249	183	202	3,128
	2018	192	218	320	267	488	350	383	402	419	294	334	193	3,860

Total cases filed in CR Municipal Court by type: December 2017 vs. December 2018

December 2018

