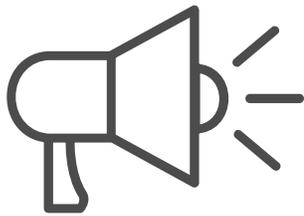
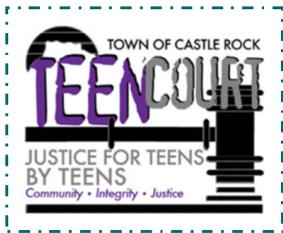


Castle Rock Teen Court

Volume 8 / Spring Issue

Volunteer Updates

Find out what our 55 volunteers have been doing!



Respondent Updates

Learn about the respondents we worked with last year, find out what types of crimes we are seeing in Teen Court, and what sentences our youth volunteers are assigning their peers.

General Legal Training

Training for our new volunteers is right around the corner.

From June 28th - July 30th

Contact the Coordinator at 303-663-6136 to sign up!

Program News

Read about updates to our program!



Volunteer Updates

Awards Ceremony

RECOGNIZING OUR DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS

The annual Teen Court Awards Ceremony was held in February of this year, at the Millhouse at Philip S. Miller Park. This location made for a beautiful and special night for our volunteers, youth and adult, and their families. At this ceremony, we recognized those who serve in multiple capacities for our program and who have provided exceptional service. Some of the top awards recognized those who have given **over 300 hours of community service** with Teen Court and who have gone above and beyond by serving as not only a juror, but as an attorney, judge, foreperson, and/or student advisory board member! During the ceremony, various volunteers had the opportunity to share about what Teen Court means to them. One volunteer's mom said, *"I was very impressed by the speeches those young people gave and by all the hard work that goes into making Teen Court happen. Just like the speakers were saying, this is very meaningful work for everyone involved."*

We could not agree with her more!



Volunteer Updates

Honoring Deputy Zack Parrish PARTNERING WITH CASTLE ROCK POLICE



On December 31st, 2017, a former Castle Rock Police Department (CRPD) officer, Zack Parrish, sacrificed his life in an effort to help a member of the Douglas County community. **Deputy Parrish had given up multiple evenings to come and participate in Teen Court hearings which gave our defendants a positive learning experience and made an impact on creating positive change in their lives.** The Teen Court volunteers wanted to be a part of honoring Zack after his passing. The CRPD asked the volunteers to help honoring Zack by making over 20 decorated drop-boxes to be placed around Castle Rock. Members of the community were then able to drop letters into these boxes which were later placed in a memorial time capsule in Zack's gear locker. It was amazing to see not only our volunteers, but their parents, siblings, and grandparents quickly join in on helping with the memorial.



Word From the SAB President SAB ELECTIONS

"In the coming weeks we are going to be having our Student Advisory Board elections! This year we are limiting the number of spots to keep it more focused and to make sure everyone has a special role! We are super excited to see who is on the board for our next SAB and **what we can accomplish this year!**" - Kourtni Wilmes

Foreperson Training VOLUNTEERS TRAINING EACH OTHER

For the past couple of years, Jackie Meeks and Aydra Jaten (pictured), both Student Advisory Board members, have led our Foreperson Training. Forepersons are the leaders and facilitators of our Peer Panel hearings, a very important responsibility and position in Teen Court. Both of these teens have worked hard to develop a 2 hour training, for prospective Forepersons, that involves a slideshow, exercises, and an exam at the end to test their fellow volunteer's knowledge and ability to serve as a Foreperson for Teen Court. These girls always receive great feedback from their students about how much they loved the training and how good of a job they do with it. Not only are these volunteers learning about how to be a Foreperson, but as one student of the training said, **"I learned a lot about how to be a better leader. I also learned that it's okay to mess up, & how to act in those situations"**. We are grateful for Jackie and Aydra's leadership and willingness to share with their fellow volunteers what they do best.



2017 VOLUNTEER STATISTICS

1,268

Hours
Volunteered



55

Teen Court
Volunteers

15

General Legal
Training
Graduates



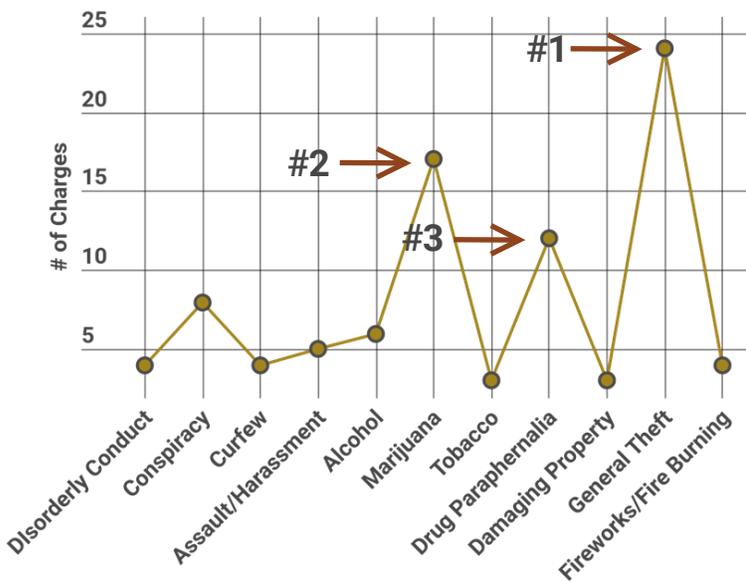
5

New Youth
Attorneys

3

New SAB
Members





2017 Respondent Charges

TC's Non-Traditional Sentencing

This year, we saw an increase in non-traditional sentencing options assigned, compared to 2016. The Empowerment Class, Jury Duty, & Letters of Apology requirements saw the biggest increase and **we have received great feedback** concerning those sanctioning options and their effectiveness with our respondents. In addition, we've seen many respondents come back to serve on the jury again once their requirements are finished. They are **invaluable** to our program because of their personal experience and empathy for other respondents.

2017 Sentencing Options Given



juveniles had to go through an expensive and lengthy process petitioning the district court to "seal" their criminal record. There is no cost to the respondent for the expungement and it is now automatically done by the court, as long as there are no objections by the Town Attorney. Because of this, the respondents who have successfully completed Teen Court can fully "move-on" from their mistake without a criminal record; **a true second chance.**

DC Substance Abuse Prevention

"To empower Douglas County youth, families, and the community by implementing positive change strategies that prevent and reduce youth substance use (DCYSAPC mission statement)." Our Teen Court recently had the opportunity to join a coalition of Douglas County schools, Tri-County Health members, hospital staff, DC sheriff department employees, and many more community members in an effort to reduce the substance abuse with our young people. As seen by the number of charges CR Teen Court saw last year, **substance abuse is a serious issue within our community** & is something worth our effort to prevent & educate the community about. We look forward to how Teen Court can help support the mission of this coalition in the future.



Links to check-out:

www.dougcoprevention.org

www.speaknowcolorado.org

"No Such Record Exists"

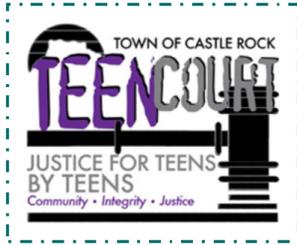
NEW AUTOMATIC JUVENILE RECORD EXPUNGEMENT

On November 1st, 2017, it became Colorado law that municipal juvenile criminal records (with a few exceptions) are to be expunged 42 days after their charges are dismissed. What this means is that the respondents who come through Teen Court can legally assert they **do not have a criminal record** and that they have **never been charged** in the matter that brought them to the program.

In addition, if the defendant or any other non-criminal justice agency were to request a copy of their record, the court's response is to be, "no such record exists". Previously,



100 Perry Street
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Website: CRgov.com/TeenCourt

Phone: 303-663-6136

Email: tcourt@crgov.com



Castle Rock Teen Court is a member of the **Colorado Teen Court Association (CTCA)**.

Check-out the CTCA online:
coloradoteencourt.org

Feedback on Teen Court

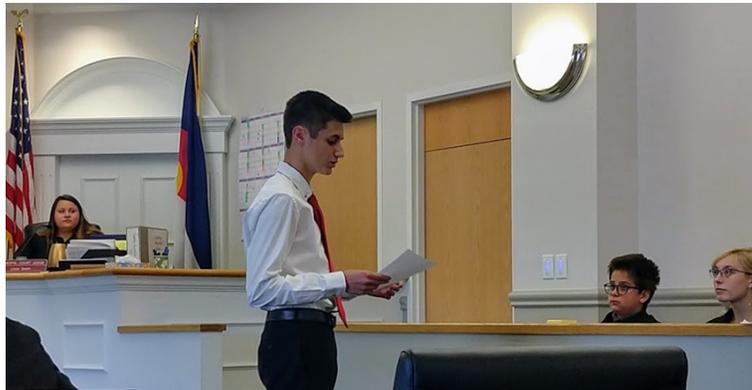
RESPONDENTS

"Peer pressure comes around, but now it's **super easy to say NO**. I'm way **happier & healthier when I'm sober**. "

"My employer has **more faith in me** because I showed that even though I made a mistake, I **can still work hard & repair the damages**. My family trusts me more because I showed them that I learned. "

"They [TC youth volunteers] were very **supportive & open minded**. They made some great [sentencing] choices. **Hope they keep doing what they're doing!**"

"[Through Teen Court], I've learned that I don't need to waste my time using marijuana & **focus on what really matters in my life**."



PARENTS OF RESPONDENTS

"[I was] **very impressed by it all** and grateful for the opportunity for her [respondent] to **learn & serve** as opposed to just pay & be punished."

"It was good for him to hear from others **how this impacts families**. I think it was a **very good** thing that he [respondent] was caught, thankfully no long term harm was caused, **but lessons learned**."

[Jury duty] "**really made him think** and was very emotional. He will keep the experience at a personal and positive level."

