

# TEEN COURT



## of Jefferson County, Alabama

The Teen Court program is managed and directed by:

*Alabama Center for Law & Civic Education*



Cumberland School of Law  
800 Lakeshore Drive  
Birmingham, AL 35229  
Phone: 205-726-2433  
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**TEEN VOLUNTEER APPLICATION  
JEFFERSON COUNTY TEEN COURT**

**Please PRINT Using Black or Blue Ink or Type:**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Number and Street) (City and Zip)

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: Male Female

Grade in Fall: \_\_\_\_\_ (must be 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>) School you will attend: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_

I am applying to serve at the following location:

\_\_\_\_\_ Birmingham Division, 120 2<sup>nd</sup> Court North, Birmingham, AL 35204

\_\_\_\_\_ Bessemer Division, 1801 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave North, Bessemer, AL 35020

Activities/Clubs/Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

Do any of these activities meet on Tuesday nights (if applying for Birmingham) or Thursday (if applying for Bessemer)? \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about Teen Court? \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you want to be a Teen Court volunteer? \_\_\_\_\_

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## TEEN VOLUNTEER JOB DESCRIPTION

### **QUALIFICATIONS:**

Applicants must be entering the 8th - 12th grade, in good academic standing, and live and/or attend school within Jefferson county. Applicants must complete an interview with a member of the Teen Court staff, and demonstrate an ability to treat each case individually, with objectivity and without prejudice. Applicants must have an ability to communicate with young people and work in a group process and be able to maintain confidentiality of all cases.

### **SELECTION:**

Applicant interviews will be scheduled for May and June. Applicants will be contacted and assigned a 15-minute interview slot. Applicants are selected into the program based on the application, teacher recommendation, and interview.

### **TRAINING:**

Volunteers selected into the program will be required to attend **mandatory** training on two Saturdays in August at Samford University. Completion of the training program will award applicants privileges of being a Teen Court volunteer.

### **VOLUNTEER POSITIONS:**

Volunteers selected into the program will be rotated among the various positions. (Serving as an attorney requires additional training.) All volunteers must attend court sessions, follow the Teen Court guidelines, maintain confidentiality, treat all participants with respect, attend all trainings, and follow the court rules. In addition, jurors must listen objectively during the hearing and assign a constructive sentence designed to hold the youth responsible for his or her actions, accountable to the community and the victim. All volunteers must attend scheduled Teen Court hearings, arrive on time, dress professionally, ensure confidentiality, be dependable, and exhibit professionalism at all times.

### **TIME REQUIRED:**

A volunteer must commit to serve at least four months during the school year. Teen Court hearings are held every Tuesday evening from 5:45 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Jefferson County Family Court and on the first and third Thursday evening of each month at the Bessemer Division. Attorneys are required to arrive one hour prior to their hearing. Bailiffs, clerks and jurors are required to arrive 30 minutes before their hearing. Generally, Teen Court volunteers will spend approximately two hours at Family Court for each scheduled hearing. Volunteers must serve a minimum of two Tuesday evenings per month during the school year for Jefferson County and one evening per month for Bessemer Division.

**I have read and understand the above information about the program for which I apply.**

Applicant's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**I have read and understand the above information about the program for which my child has applied.**

Parent/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail applications for the **Birmingham Division** to:

Teen Court Coordinator  
120 2<sup>nd</sup> Court North  
Birmingham, AL 35204  
or fax 726-2459

Mail applications for the **Bessemer Division** to:

Teen Court Coordinator  
Courthouse Suite 307  
1801 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave North  
Bessemer, AL 35020  
or fax 744-3550

**DUE on or before May 15**

