

Cause No. _____

STATE OF TEXAS
V.

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IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT
CITY OF ARLINGTON
TARRANT COUNTY, TEXAS

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR TEEN COURT PROGRAM PROCEEDINGS

If allowed to complete deferred disposition with the Teen Court Program, you and any person appearing with you, including a parent or guardian, must comply with the following rules and regulations:

Appearance with a Parent or Legal Guardian – The law requires that any person younger than 17 years of age be accompanied by a **parent or legal guardian** while in court. This does not include adult siblings, relatives, neighbors, etc. If your parent or legal guardian cannot attend your trial with you, you cannot participate. You will need to appear before a Municipal Court Judge to find an alternative resolution to your case.

Attendance – You **must** appear on time for all proceedings. This requirement is for your safety as well as for the security of our building and City staff. The doors of the City Tower are locked at 5:30 p.m. Any person arriving after the doors are locked will not be allowed into the building. Friends, siblings, and other persons are not allowed to attend with you as guests without prior written approval from the Teen Court Coordinator. Court is not a fun place for young children, and therefore, they should remain at home with a caregiver if possible.

Cell Phones, IPODs, PDAs, etc. – All persons are prohibited from using electronic devices, including cell phones, during Teen Court proceedings. If you or your parent/guardian bring your phone or other device into the building, it must be turned off and delivered to the Teen Court personnel during check-in. You will be allowed to collect your device when you check out and are dismissed. A phone will be provided for you to call a parent at the end of the evening if you need to make arrangements for a ride. If a phone or other device goes off during Teen Court proceedings, it will be collected by the Teen Court Judge and/or courtroom monitor and delivered to the Teen Court Coordinator. You will need to contact the Municipal Court Judge to have your device returned.

Conduct – Court is a serious place that demands respect as well as appropriate behavior and language. You should remain silent while in the courtroom unless you are addressing the judge or jury.

Dress Code -- Everyone appearing for the Teen Court Program shall be dressed according to the Arlington Municipal Court rules. Shirts and/or dresses must not be strapless, halter, midriff, or having spaghetti/tank-style straps. Short shorts and mini-skirts are not allowed. Pants must fit properly and cannot sag below the waist. Hats and other head coverings are prohibited unless they are worn for religious or health reasons. Shoes are required, and obscene or profane writing, diagrams, or drawings on clothing or in tattoos are prohibited. Jewelry, piercings, and tattoos must not be distracting to the judge or jury and should be covered with band-aid or clothing if necessary.

BY SIGNING BELOW, I AM AGREEING TO COMPLY WITH THE ABOVE RULES AND REGULATIONS. I UNDERSTAND THAT A VIOLATION OF ANY OF THE ABOVE PROVISIONS WILL RESULT IN IMMEDIATE REMOVAL FROM THE COURTROOM AND POSSIBLE REMOVAL FROM THE TEEN COURT PROGRAM. I AGREE THAT I WILL REQUEST A COURT DATE WITH THE MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS OF REMOVAL FROM THE PROGRAM TO DISCUSS CREDIT FOR THE HOURS AND PRIOR JURY SERVICE TERMS COMPLETED AS WELL AS TO AVOID A CONVICTION FOR THIS OFFENSE. I FURTHER AGREE THAT IF I AM FOUND GUILTY, I WILL PAY THE FINES AND COSTS OWED FOR THE OFFENSE TO AVOID A WARRANT OF ARREST UPON MY 17TH BIRTHDAY.

DEFENDANT DATE

PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN DATE

TEEN COURT COORDINATOR/COURT CLERK DATE