

Welcome!

**Law Related Education
Committee Attorney Volunteer
Orientation**

October 6, 2017

Classroom Speaker Program

- **What?** Speak to 8th Grade civics classes and High School government and business law classes on various topics. You will be provided the topic in advance.
- **When?** Usually 50 minutes
- **Where?** Various Fairfax County Public Middle and High Schools
- **Experience Required?** Practical Experience in the topic requested.

Devonshire Program

- **What?** Small Group Session for students who have violated their school's alcohol or other drug regulations. This is one part of a voluntary five-day day seminar. You will discuss with them the legal consequences of drug and/or alcohol use.
- **When?** Wednesdays 9:30am – 10:30am
- **Where?** Pimmit Hills or Quander Road
- **Experience Required?** Criminal Law Background

Mock Trial Program

- **What?** Perform “Fairy Tale” mock trials in the elementary schools to teach young students to understand how a trial works. A Fairfax County Judge will preside. The students will participate as jurors and will be asked to come up with a verdict. You will participate as either an attorney or a witness. No preparation needed. You will read from a script.
- **When?** Usually 50 minutes
- **Where?** Various Fairfax County Public Elementary Schools
- **Experience Required?** None

Court Tour Program

Time Commitment

- Students arrive at 9:30am
- Court Tour concludes at noon

No Experience Required

- Attorney Handbook details step-by-step instructions on how to navigate the students throughout the court tour
- Court Staff will help

Brief Overview

- Review Attorney Handbook in advance
- Go to Room 303 to retrieve badge and folder
- Retrieve Court Docket Sheet from 5th Floor Judge's Chambers
- Meet students at Security at 9:30
- Bring students to Courtroom 2F (this may change due to court room renovations)
- 3 parts: 1) GDC orientation, 2) Mock Trial, 3) Viewing Trials
- Return Students to Security at noon
- Return badge and folder to Room 303

Part 1: GDC Overview

- A GDC representative will address the students to provide information about the courts
- Holding Cell viewing, if time permits

Part 2: Mock Trial/Judge Participation

- JDR Judge assigned to your court tour is the Chamber's Judge for that day
- Dockets are unpredictable and could delay, limit or prevent JDR Judge's participation
- GDC Judges will step in whenever possible
- You may have to step into Judge role if no JDR or GDC Judge is available

Part 3: Trial Viewing

- GDC or Circuit (No JDR)
- Check Docket Sheets ahead of time
- Avoid cases involving sex crimes or divorce
- Be flexible
 - May have to move around to different courtrooms
 - May have to divide students into groups and view cases in different courtrooms
- Avoid case discussion within earshot of courtroom

Helpful Tips

- Bring mobile phone and Attorney Information Sheet (which will be emailed to you in advance) in case issues arise the day of the court tour
- Make available to teachers the name and case number of any cases viewed for follow-up as to outcome if not known at conclusion of Court Tour
- Be flexible
 - Buses may run late
 - JDR Judge's docket may run late
 - May have to step into Judge's role in Mock Trial
- Be prepared to answer student's questions about your background and experience

Benefits

- Recognized by Judges, Court Staff and Bar Association
- Admired by student participants
- Appreciated by teacher participants
- Inspire students to pursue careers in the legal field
- For new attorneys, learn to navigate courthouse and meet Judges and Court Staff

Spread the Word!

- No experience necessary
- Finite time commitment (9:30am to Noon)
- First-time volunteers can be paired with experienced volunteers
- Can be paired with school of choice (e.g. your alma mater, your son/daughter's school, your neighborhood school, your friend's child/neighbor/niece/nephew/godchild's school, etc.)
- Judges, Court Staff and the Bar Association take notice of your participation in the program

Thank You!

Your time and commitment is
greatly appreciated!

Questions

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