

Capital Area Teen Court

RESILIENCE THROUGH RESTORATIVE JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP



Thank you for reading our latest edition of Capital Area Teen Court’s newsletter!

We’re proud to provide opportunities for young people to learn, grow, and make better choices for the future. As a non-profit diversion court program, we offer youths a second chance to take responsibility for their actions in a supportive, restorative environment.

Since our founding in 1998, Capital Area Teen Court has helped over 14,000 teens build better futures by providing them with tools to navigate challenges and take control of their lives. We believe in the power of second chances, and through our various initiatives, we’re helping young people make a positive impact not only on their own lives but in their communities as well.

Teen Court is a unique opportunity for our clients to face their peers in a courtroom setting. Instead of traditional sentencing, defendants are judged and sentenced by fellow teenagers, who understand the challenges and pressures of growing up. This model allows teens to take responsibility for their actions while learning valuable lessons in empathy, accountability, and the justice system.

In this newsletter you can expect:

Welcome!

Volunteer Spotlight

Community Service
Spotlight

Lew’s Corner

Get Involved!

Upcoming Court
Dates

Volunteer Spotlight

We want to shine a spotlight on a youth volunteer who makes a positive impact in our community. This month, we're excited to introduce Yul Choi!

A yellow spotlight graphic with a grey handle at the top right, shining down on the text.

Meet Yul:

Yul is a junior at Cary Academy and has been volunteering with Capital Area Teen Court for over a year and a half! Outside of Teen Court, he's involved in debate, theater, and enjoys playing golf.

Yul hopes to continue pursuing law and advocacy in the future!



Here's what Yul has to say about his experience:

"I've really enjoyed my time at Teen Court over the past year—it's been a great way to develop my legal knowledge while giving back to the community."

Yul's advice for new volunteers:

"Don't be afraid to ask questions and take every Teen Court night to take action and be proactive—it's a really supportive environment, and there's so much to gain from the process."

Thanks Yul!



Community Service Site Spotlight

Impartial

In this section, we highlight one of our fantastic community service sites where our clients contribute their time and energy. We work with 11 sites around the county, and this month, we're spotlighting Impartial, a non-profit that's focused on criminal justice reform through art, research, and community.



We all have our own ways of creating a unique impact in our world. Impartial advocates for change through learning and connecting with like-minded people and organizations that already have a well-defined criminal justice mission.

Impartial hopes to make it easier, more enjoyable, and impactful for people to find their place in creating the difference they want to see.

Interested in this organization?
Want to learn more about how you can help?

Contact Diane Wells!

Phone: (919) 533-4100

Email: Diane@impartial.one



***This was made ONLY with coffee grounds!



Lew's Corner

To Re-direct/Re-Cross: That is the Question

If you've volunteered with us before, you've likely met one of our judges, Lewis Cohn. As a retired attorney, Lew serves as a judge for Capital Area Teen Court at almost every court night. Each newsletter, we'll have "Lew's Corner" where he'll share some insight, wisdom, or helpful pointers!

In most Teen Court trials, Youth Attorneys must ponder the question of whether to re-direct or re-cross examine a defendant. Remember: unlike cross-examination which may be free-ranging, re-direct and re-cross examination are limited to the "scope" of the immediately preceding cross-examination or re-direct examination.

If a subject was not raised in cross or re-direct examination, the subject may not be later addressed in re-direct or re-cross examination.

How does a Youth Attorney determine whether to pursue re-direct or re-cross examination? **Here are some considerations:**

- If opposing counsel hasn't "scored any points" on cross or re-direct examination, there's no need to pursue further questioning.
- If cross or re-direct examination testimony is confusing or needs clarification, further examination may be considered.
- Even if there's a need for further testimony, defense counsel may choose to forego re-direct examination if the defendant hasn't testified effectively/is unlikely to perform well with further examination.
- Even if defense's testimony was confusing/prejudicial, prosecution may choose to forego re-cross examination if they don't feel they can "shake" the defendant from their prior testimony.



Get Involved: Volunteer Opportunities

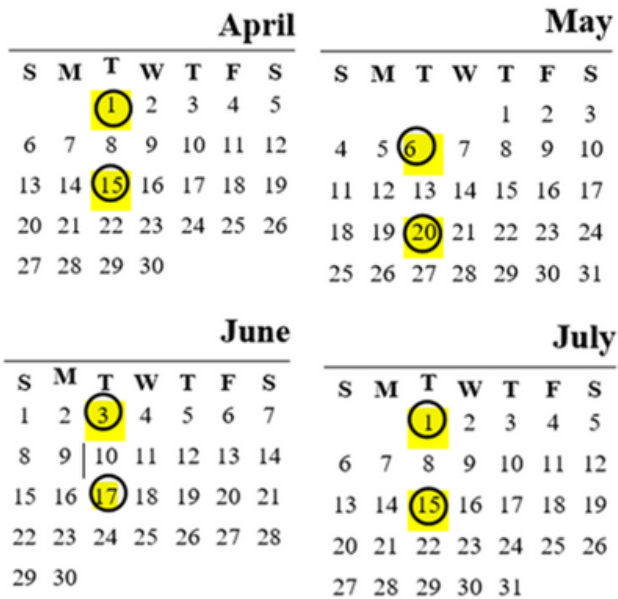
We're always looking for enthusiastic adults and youth to join our team!

If you're interested in taking on a new role, or want to learn more about other volunteer opportunities, please don't hesitate to reach out!

Visit our website
 (www.capitalareateencourt.com)
 or email Liz Wilson
 (Elizabeth.Wilson1@wake.gov)
 for more details.

Upcoming Court Dates

- April 1st
- April 15th
- May 6th
- May 20th
- June 3rd
- June 17th
- July 1st
- July 15th



Thank you for your continued dedication and support of Capital Area Teen Court! We truly value all our volunteers and the incredible impact you have on the lives of others. Keep up the great work!

For questions or to submit content for the next edition of the newsletter, please contact Liz Wilson (Elizabeth.Wilson1@wake.gov).

CAPITAL AREA TEEN COURT	(919) 856-7588
WWW.CapitalAreaTeenCourt.com	316 Fayetteville St, Raleigh NC

