



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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New Braunfels Teens Participate in Statewide Mock Trial Competition

New Braunfels, TX – Six competitors from the New Braunfels Teen Court Academy participated in their first Statewide Mock Trial Court Competition on April 7th.

The Teen Court Academy was established in April 2016. Municipal Court Judge Rose Zamora and Juvenile Case Manager Norma C. Herrera worked to bring this idea to fruition and enlisted the help of several community leaders as faculty and curriculum developers. The Teen Court Academy Graduates spent 10 weeks attending 2-hour sessions covering the various stages of the legal field to prepare them to become Volunteer Teen Attorneys in Teen Court. To date, the program has graduated over 23 Volunteer Teen Attorneys.

This year's group was given an opportunity to participate in a Statewide Mock Trial Competition held in Southlake Texas by the Teen Court Association of Texas. This was the first year that the Volunteer Teen Court Attorneys have participated. Our competitors were: Haley Ruby, Emily Jensen, Lillian Goodbread, Amanda Laird, Reagan Martin, and Elektra Jordan. Since February, they have been meeting twice a week to prepare two cases.

“We would like to congratulate these young women for participating in a very tough competition with teams from across Texas that have been participating in this competition for years,” said Judge Zamora. “Our two teams placed 6th and 12th out of 22 participating teams. We received many compliments from Judges on our Volunteer Teen Attorney’s knowledge of evidence rules and the law.”

“The success of this group would not have been possible without the help and support of their parents,” Zamora went on to say. “We also had a team of coaches that were knowledgeable, dedicated, and motivating.”

The coaches included: Judge Charles Stephens, Keira Kilday of the Comal County District Attorney’s Office, Judge Stephanie Bascon, Nathan Brown of the City of New Braunfels’ City Attorney’s Office, Stacey Goodbread of the Law Office of Stacey Goodbread, Norma Herrera of the City of New Braunfels Municipal Court, Mike Rutherford of the New Braunfels Police Department, Raquel Vasquez - Alumni of the New Braunfels Teen Attorney Academy, and Judge Rose Zamora.

“Thank you coaches, for all your time and support. We could not have done this without you,” added Ms. Herrera.

“Our City Council, our City Manager, and our City Attorney have been so supportive and motivating for this team, and we also thank them for that support,” said Judge Zamora.

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