

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 298400

ADOPTED ON SEP 22 2003

WHEREAS, Councilmember Brian Maienschein and City Attorney Casey Gwinn combined two juvenile programs in October 2001 to create the City of San Diego Teen Court; and

WHEREAS, Teen Court is recognized for reducing juvenile crime in San Diego by holding young offenders accountable for their crimes while teaching hundreds of high school students about the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, Teen Court holds sentencing hearings for first-time juvenile offenders where high school students serve as jurors, attorneys, bailiffs, and court clerks; and

WHEREAS, City Attorneys, Public Defenders, and Police Officers go to high schools throughout the City and train students for each court session while also teaching various aspects of the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, the sentences imposed by Teen Court juries are binding and require the offender to complete various tasks assigned by the jury; and

WHEREAS, each offender also appears before a Sanction Review Panel of other students to report on the progress of completing his or her sentence, which may include workshops related to the crime committed, writing assignments and letters of apology, community service, future jury service, or imposed curfews; and

WHEREAS, Teen Court continues to expand throughout the City of San Diego and currently serves over 50 offenders and their families each academic year, and trains nearly 1000 high school students on criminal justice issues; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the people of San Diego, hereby proclaims SEPTEMBER 2003 to be **"TEEN COURT MONTH"** in the City of San Diego.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

By *Lisa A. Foster*
Lisa A. Foster
Deputy City Attorney

LAF:jab
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