



Mary P. Treiber
MAGISTRATE

Alaska Court System

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February 5, 2010

Margaret McCloy
Executive Director
Ketchikan Youth Court
2417 Tongass Avenue, Suite 215
Ketchikan, AK 99901

Dear Ms. McCloy:

As the Magistrate for the Ketchikan Trial Courts, I am the judicial officer who most frequently deals with school age teenagers charged by the State of Alaska and the City of Ketchikan with violations of laws or ordinances prohibiting possession or consumption of alcohol by minors, establishing curfews, and prohibiting possession or use of tobacco products by minors. The existence of and the programs offered by the Ketchikan Youth Court provide me with a meaningful sentencing alternative in dealing with these cases.

The KYC process teaches teens referred by the court to KYC about the court process itself, and provides a group of same-age and same-interests teens for these youthful defendants to work with. The resolution of cases through KYC requires engagement of both the defendant and that teen's parents, ultimately strengthening the family abilities to deal with problems a defendant is having as expressed through these quasi-criminal charges. The Court System sees fewer recidivists among those teens who are referred to and who successfully complete the KYC program.

KYC has added the Prime for Life alcohol information classes, and has agreed to make the class available to teens other than those actively participating in the full KYC program. This is a good program, and adds significantly to the resources available within Ketchikan.

I fully support Ketchikan Youth Court.

Sincerely,

Mary P. Treiber
Magistrate