

**HB**

**28**



REPRESENTATIVE ERIC CROFT

## Sponsor Statement

House Bill 28 would provide additional funding for the Youth Court program. The Youth Court was created in 1988, and has since helped alleviate the Court System's case load. Youth Court has kept at minimum the number of petty juvenile crimes deferred to the Court. Defendants who go through the Youth Court are given community service and fined. The defendant is judged, tried, prosecuted, and defended by members of the Youth Court who have been through training before they are allowed to serve as officers of the Youth Court. Over a three year period, 9 out of 10 Youth Court defendants have not reoffended.

HB 28, would increase the surcharge added to fines for misdemeanors, infraction and violations by adult defendants. The receipts from the surcharge would go into creating a juvenile justice grant fund to provide financial assistance for the operation of youth courts.



HOUSE BILL NO. 28

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE CROFT

Introduced: 1/19/99

Referred: Health, Education and Social Services, Judiciary, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act imposing a surcharge on fines imposed for misdemeanors, infractions, and  
2 violations and authorizing disposition of estimated receipts from that surcharge;  
3 and creating the juvenile justice grant fund in order to provide financial  
4 assistance for the operation of youth courts."

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

6 \* Section 1. AS 12.25.195(c) is amended to read:

7 (c) Disposition of an offense under (a) of this section may not occur unless the  
8 person cited for the offense pays the surcharges required to be imposed under  
9 [SURCHARGE PRESCRIBED IN] AS 12.55.039 and 12.55.041 in addition to the  
10 scheduled bail or fine amount. The surcharges [SURCHARGE] required to be paid  
11 under this subsection shall be deposited into the general fund and accounted for under  
12 AS 37.05.142.

13 \* Sec. 2. AS 12.25.200(b) is amended to read:

14 (b) A citation issued under AS 12.25.180 must indicate

1 (1) the amount of bail or fine and each [THE] surcharge applicable to  
2 the offense;

3 (2) the procedure a person must follow in responding to the citation;

4 (3) that if the person fails to pay the bail or fine the person must appear  
5 in court;

6 (4) that failure to pay the bail or fine or appear in court for an offense  
7 involving a moving motor vehicle may result in

8 (A) suspension of the person's driver's license, privilege to  
9 drive, or privilege to obtain a license; or

10 (B) attachment of the person's permanent fund dividend to pay  
11 the fine plus court and collection costs under AS 28.05.155; and

12 (5) that the person has a right to

13 (A) a trial;

14 (B) engage counsel;

15 (C) confront and question witnesses;

16 (D) testify; and

17 (E) subpoena witnesses on the person's behalf.

18 \* Sec. 3. AS 12.55 is amended by adding a new section to read:

19 **Sec. 12.55.041. Surcharge for misdemeanors and violations.** (a) In addition  
20 to a fine or other penalty prescribed by law, a defendant who pleads guilty or nolo  
21 contendere to, forfeits bail for, or is convicted of an offense punishable as a  
22 misdemeanor or of an infraction or violation, except the violation of a vehicle or traffic  
23 offense under AS 28, a regulation adopted under AS 28, or a municipal ordinance  
24 under AS 28.01.010, shall be assessed a surcharge of \$25.

25 (b) A court may not fail to impose the surcharge required under this section.  
26 The surcharge may not be waived, deferred, or suspended. A court may allow a  
27 defendant who is unable to pay the surcharge required to be imposed under this section  
28 to perform community work under AS 12.55.055(c) in lieu of the surcharge.

29 (c) The surcharge shall be paid within 10 days of imposition or such shorter  
30 period of time as ordered by the court. Failure to pay the surcharge is punishable as  
31 contempt of court. Proceedings to collect the surcharge may be instituted by the state,

1 by the municipality, or by the court on its own motion.

2 (d) Money collected under this section shall be deposited into the general fund  
3 and accounted for under AS 37.05.142.

4 \* Sec. 4. AS 29.25.074(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) A municipality may not enforce an ordinance for which a fine of \$30 or  
6 more or imprisonment is prescribed as a penalty unless the municipality authorizes the  
7 imposition of and provides for the collection of the surcharges [SURCHARGE]  
8 required to be imposed under AS 12.55.039 and 12.55.041. The surcharges  
9 [SURCHARGE] shall be deposited into the general fund of the state and accounted for  
10 under AS 37.05.142. Subject to appropriation, the legislature may reimburse a  
11 municipality that collects a surcharge required to be imposed under AS 12.55.039 or  
12 12.55.041 for the cost to the municipality in collecting the surcharge and transmitting  
13 the surcharge to the state. The reimbursement may not exceed 10 percent of the  
14 surcharge collected and transmitted to the state.

15 \* Sec. 5. AS 44.47 is amended by adding a new section to read:

16 **Sec. 44.47.201. Juvenile justice grant fund.** (a) There is created in the  
17 department the juvenile justice grant fund. In addition to other appropriations to the  
18 fund, the legislature may appropriate to the fund the annual estimated balance in the  
19 account maintained under AS 37.05.142 for money collected under AS 12.55.041 and  
20 may appropriate from the fund to the department to make grants to youth courts.

21 (b) Nonprofit corporations proposing to establish and operate youth courts  
22 under AS 47.12.400 may apply to the department for a grant under (a) of this section.  
23 A grant under this subsection must be matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis by the  
24 grantee in cash or in kind. The commissioner may waive the match required under  
25 this subsection on a showing satisfactory to the commissioner by the prospective  
26 applicant that matching funds are not available.

27 (c) Grants made under (a) of this section shall be used

28 (1) to defray the costs of organization of youth courts under  
29 AS 47.12.400; the department shall assure that the grant is spent for necessary  
30 organizational assistance and that appropriate accounting procedures are maintained;  
31 grants made under this paragraph may not exceed \$30,000, and only one grant may be

1 made to a grantee under authority of this paragraph; and

2 (2) to defray the costs of operation of youth courts under AS 47.12.400.

3 \* Sec. 6. Notwithstanding the requirements of AS 12.55.041 and AS 37.05.142 that  
4 surcharges collected under AS 12.55.041 be accounted for separately, the Alaska Court System  
5 shall deposit money collected under AS 12.55.041 in the general fund and shall, by February 1  
6 of each year, provide to the Department of Administration, to the Legislative Budget and  
7 Audit Committee, and to each house of the legislature an estimate of the money collected  
8 under AS 12.55.041 for that fiscal year.

9 \* Sec. 7. Section 6 of this Act is repealed on the earlier of (1) the date that the Alaska  
10 Court System has the capability to separately track and account electronically for money  
11 collected under AS 12.55.041, or (2) June 30, 2002. The executive director of the Alaska  
12 Court System shall notify the lieutenant governor and the revisor of statutes when the  
13 electronic capability described in this section has been obtained.

§ 1  
4/21  
AMENDMENT

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE

BY REPRESENTATIVE CROFT

TO: HB 28

- 1 Page 2, line 24:
- 2 Delete "\$25"
- 3 Insert "\$10"

# LEGAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF LEGAL AND RESEARCH SERVICES  
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY  
STATE OF ALASKA

(907) 465-3867 or 465-2450  
FAX (907) 465-2029  
Mail Stop 3101

130 Seward Street, Suite 409  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-2105

## MEMORANDUM

March 16, 1999

**SUBJECT:** Sectional Summary of HB 28. (Work Order No. 21-LS0212\A)

**TO:** Representative Eric Croft  
Attn: Kate

**FROM:** Gerald P. Luckhaupt *JEL*  
Legislative Counsel

You have requested a sectional summary of the above-described bill. As a preliminary matter, please note that a sectional summary of a bill should not be considered an authoritative interpretation of the bill - the bill itself is the best statement of its contents.

**Section 1.** Amends AS 12.25.195(c) to conform the requirements of that section to the new surcharge being added under sec. 3 of the bill.

**Section 2.** Amends AS 12.25.200(b) to make a conforming change for sec. 3 of the bill.

**Section 3.** Creates a new surcharge of \$25 to be assessed against persons committing misdemeanors, infractions, or violations, except vehicle and traffic offenses.

**Section 4.** Makes conforming amendments to AS 29.25.074(a) occasioned by the creation of the surcharge under sec. 3.

**Section 5.** Creates the juvenile justice grant fund and provides non-binding direction that the legislature may appropriate the surcharges collected under sec. 3 to the fund and may appropriate from the fund to the Department of Community and Regional Affairs to make grants for youth courts; requires nonprofit corporations that apply for youth court grants to match the grant funds unless the Commissioner of Community and Regional Affairs waives the matching requirement; restricts the uses of youth court grants.

**Sections 6 and 7.** Allows the Alaska Court System to estimate the amount of money collected under sec. 3 of the bill until the court system's new computer system is on-line.

GPL:glc  
99-101.glc

A M E N D M E N T

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE

BY REPRESENTATIVE CROFT

TO: HB 28

- 1 Page 2, line 24:
- 2 Delete "\$25"
- 3 Insert "\$10"

### Anchorage Youth Court Model Qualities for Effectiveness

- 1) The Anchorage Youth Court model is readily replicated, and allows for the needs of different communities.
- 2) Any Anchorage student in grades 7 - 12 is eligible to register for Anchorage Youth Court classes, including former defendants. Annual membership is approximately 350 students.
- 3) Local attorneys, who volunteer their time, teach an eight week basic law course. Students must pass a rigorous Youth Court bar exam, and a State of Alaska judge swears them into the Youth Court Bar Association in the Alaska State Supreme Courtroom.
- 4) A Youth Court bar association patterned after the adult bar association provides continuing legal education, and a framework to accomplish Youth Court office and court operation. Students who attend two of every three monthly meetings, actively participate in court and AYC Bar Association activities may remain active through their senior year with no further class training.
- 5) Youth Court is a youth and adult partnership, with students comprising 50% of the Board of Directors.
- 6) Adults in the community entrust students with great responsibility, and provide monetary, volunteer, and technical support.
- 7) The court is modeled as closely as possible after the adult criminal court.
- 8) Defendants enter Youth Court voluntarily with parental consent, and may voluntarily withdraw from Youth Court.
- 9) Defendants may enter Youth Court only once.
- 10) Misdemeanors, minor felonies and repeat offenders are accepted, if appropriate for Youth Court, thus relieving the court system of a portion of its case load.
- 11) Youth Court retains right of refusal for any case in which its youth and adult screeners feel the defendant may pose a danger to himself or the community.
- 12) Juveniles may plead not guilty, no contest or guilty.
- 13) All no contest or guilty plea cases will be arraigned and sentenced within an average of 10 days from referral, unless the defendant has extenuating circumstances.
- 14) Three trained youth judges hear and sentence each case in the Alaska State Courthouse.
- 15) Mitigators and aggravators are considered in sentencing.
- 16) Cases are confidential, as required by State of Alaska law.
- 17) No adult may speak on the court floor, but an adult attorney volunteer is present at all court hearings to advise judges or attorneys, if needed. Adults may apply to volunteer as recording clerks or to type charging documents.
- 18) Youth Court serves subpoenas issued through the Alaska State Division of Family and Youth Services Commissioner.
- 19) Defendants must complete their sentence within 4 to 6 weeks, unless the restitution amount is so large it cannot be earned in that time.
- 20) Immediately after arraignment defendants, with their parents, receive the community restitution service assignment, learn when and where the defendant will attend the education programs, and all other expectations, so s/he can begin sentence completion immediately.
- 21) Each sentence includes an essay with required topics: 1) the defendant's responsibility for the offense; 2) everyone s/he hurt and how this affected them; 3) what s/he will do if such a situation arises again; and 4) what s/he plans to do to be a better citizen. Also included is community restitution service, and one or more appropriate educational programs. Monetary restitution is ordered, when warranted.
- 22) All service fees and restitution must be earned by the defendant him/herself. A portion of the Youth Court service fee may be worked off in the Youth Court office.
- 23) Defendants are closely monitored while completing their sentences.
- 24) When no appropriate education program exists, Anchorage Youth Court initiates program development by appropriate organizations or agencies.
- 25) Youth Court serves non profit organizations in the community through defendant community restitution service and member volunteer activities.

THE  
FOLLOWING  
DOCUMENT(S)  
ARE  
POOR  
ORIGINAL  
COPIES

# ANCHORAGE YOUTH COURT

## \$388/CASE: A BARGAIN

Each case at AYC costs \$388. AYC hears an average of 500 cases per year. Should a defendant elect to have his case heard at AYC, the following occurs;

### DEFENDANT

- within 11 days, he stands in a formal courtroom to hear the charges against him, as if he were an adult
- earns and pays the \$50 AYC court fee
- if found guilty:
  - (1) repays the victim restitution and repays the community by working 8 - 250 unpaid hours
  - (2) earns, pays for and attends anti-shoplifting, drug and alcohol, weapon/fire safety and/or anger management classes
  - (3) may attend an adult arraignment, tour Cook Inlet Pre-Trial Facility, write an essay or letter of apology
- Is invited to take AYC training and join AYC

**Result: 89% WHO COMPLETE AYC DO NOT REOFFEND**

### ANCHORAGE YOUTH COURT MEMBERS (350 Annually)

- participate in trial or hearings as judges, prosecutors, and defense attorneys, rendering real decisions, and thereby learning to understand, appreciate and respect the legal system
- gain speaking, advocacy and team building skills
- run a bar association, a court and a non-profit corporation
- learn respect for each other, the law and community expectations
- appreciate the need for and the personal satisfaction that comes from serving one's community

### COMMUNITY

- savings of approximately \$40,000 per defendant who does not reoffend and reside at McLaughlin for 1 year
- Average of \$9,000 paid annually to compensate victims of juvenile crime
- Average of 9,600 hours of community service annually from AYC defendants
- 30,000 hours of community service annually from AYC members
- 7,000 hours of community service annually, worth over \$300,000 in goods and services from AYC adult volunteers and supporters
- 125 - 150 Anchorage secondary students trained annually to understand and participate in the community and its legal system
- adult and young people working together to serve their community in support of law abiding behavior
- recognition as leading Alaska and the Nation with a model for successful juvenile crime intervention - Anchorage will host the National Youth Court Conference in May 1999

### Anchorage Youth Court Donation

*Please Support Anchorage Youth Court Making a Difference to reduce juvenile crime*



\_\_\_\_\_  
Donor's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address

Donation: \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

If your employer donates matching funds, please consider Anchorage Youth Court for this opportunity. Complete and return this donation slip with your check to Anchorage Youth Court, P.O. Box 102735, Anchorage, AK 99510

Anchorage Youth Court Nonprofit  
501(c)3 Tax ID# 92-012-9615

Date: 1/21/99	Page: 3	Anchorage Youth Court
To: K.L.C.		From: Shavon Lee
Co: Dept of Hs & S		
File # 465-4998		Phone #: (907) 274-5800
Fax # 465-4114		Fax #: (907) 272-0491

### ANCHORAGE YOUTH COURT HISTORY

*OR MATT NEIL*

The idea for Anchorage Youth Court, incorporated as a 501(c)3 non profit in 1989, actually began when Blythe Marston, a local attorney, shared information she had gathered about the Ithaca Youth Court in New York while attending law school at Cornell University. Upon returning to Anchorage and joining the Young Lawyers Section of the Anchorage Bar Association, she and others organized a town meeting to explore development of a local youth court.

The Young Lawyers invited possible supporters from the Anchorage Police Department, the Court, Juvenile Intake, the Anchorage School District, the Anchorage Bar Association, students and parents to the first town meeting. In 1988 a group of dedicated students worked with attorneys and other adult volunteers to create and develop the Anchorage Youth Court model. With community involvement, in-kind donations and \$1,700 from the Anchorage Bar Association, that concept became a new program, which won a national award from the American Bar Association in 1989. Anchorage Youth Court would provide youth with legal education to appreciate the law and with juvenile diversion by including formal legal training, a youth court bar association, and a ~~where youth completely by youth in grades 7 through 12~~ Juvenile Intake would refer cases in were not considered a threat to themselves or society. Adults would participate in advisory capacity.

AYC received its first juvenile criminal cases in March, 1989, after almost 100 Anchorage area youth received training and were sworn-in as Youth Court attorneys and judges. Between 1989 and 1995 the student volunteers adjudicated between 18 and 20 cases annually. Assisted by a coordinator, who worked part time, an attorney who volunteered as primary legal advisor, volunteer attorneys and a budget of up to \$50,000 annually, the defendant recidivism rate was under 5%, according to Juvenile Intake. During this period, Anchorage Youth Court earned two national awards from the American Bar Association and Information America.

However, during this time juvenile crime in Anchorage rose, concerning the public. The Anchorage Assembly began organizing an effort to reduce local juvenile crime. Assembly members also became aware of Anchorage Youth Court's effectiveness, low operating cost and large volunteer base, which had grown to over 250 students annually. Thus, AYC became an active partner, working with others to plan and implement the Making a Difference Program. This pilot project would hold more youth accountable for breaking the law and would reduce the time between arrest and intervention, enabling youth to relate their actions to consequences. Anchorage Youth Court student members reorganized Youth Court to arraign and sentence up to 25 defendants, pleading no contest at Juvenile Intake, weekly. Anchorage Youth Court would, however, continue to accept cases in which the defendant pleads not guilty. These cases receive a judge or jury trial.

*1997 figures*

By late 1995 referral of cases increased incrementally to 40, testing the new structure. In 1996, Anchorage Youth Court student volunteer membership increased to 350. Juvenile Intake referred 382 cases during 1996, and 515 cases in 1997. Over the two year period, defendants earned and paid victims over \$20,000, and worked over 19,000 hours to repay the community for breaking its laws. Although Anchorage Youth Court now accepts cases in which the defendant may have a previous arrest record, more than 86% of those, who completed their Youth Court obligation over the two year period, have not reoffended. Over 94% of the defendants referred in 1997, have not reoffended. At a cost of \$489 per defendant, \$50 of which is paid by the defendant, and with only 1% of its members arrested for breaking the law, Anchorage Youth Court continues to provide Anchorage youth with low cost legal education, diversion and intervention. As a result, the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention recognized Anchorage Youth Court as a National Promising Program for Juvenile Delinquency Prevention.

*1998 Total cases referred 440  
89% over the three yr period haven't reoffended*

# MEMORANDUM


# State of Alaska

TO: Representative Eric Croft  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

DATE: February 22, 1999

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO: 465-4378

FROM: Laddie Shaw, Director   
Alaska Police Standards  
P.O. Box 111200  
Juneau, AK 99811-1200

SUBJECT: HB 28

Per your request, these are the numbers I have gathered for a \$5 and \$10 estimates relating to the surcharge collections of HB 28.

Actual collections of fines have historically been in the 50 - 60% range of all citations issued.

Estimated from 1996/1997 dispositions + or -:

17,000 misdemeanor conviction's and 25,000 infraction collections:  
42,000 total estimated collections

@ \$5 = \$ 210,000.00

@ \$10 = \$ 420,000.00

Again as I had mentioned to you, APSC has a graduated collection on our surcharge from \$100 on felony's to \$10 on infractions.

With the crackdown by the Anchorage Police Department on individuals who have not historically paid tickets (40% + or -) we may see a dramatic jump in fine collection's in 1999, and in turn surcharge collection's.

APSC estimates 70% of collection's to come from misdemeanor and infraction violations.

## Anchorage Youth Court Statistics: 1998

The following data has been compiled by the Youth Restitution Program for the Anchorage Youth Court. All statistics were collected from January 1, 1998 until December 31, 1998. Referrals came exclusively from the McLaughlin Youth Center Juvenile Intake Unit.

This report will be divided into three primary sections. The first section examines various program results up to this time. An analysis of monetary restitution, hours of community restitution service worked, recidivism rates, as well as tracking completion within the program are some of the highlights within this section.

The second section of this report will focus on the demographic patterns of the defendants, such as where the defendant goes to school (area of residence), ages, ethnic background, and educational level. It is hoped that over time this may give us some insight into the make up of youthful offenders who commit offenses.

A primary goal of the Making a Difference Program is its ability to carry out a just sentence in a timely manner. To assess this goal, the third section of the report will analyze the functioning of the system from arrest to completion of program. By looking at month by month data we will be able to see what progress is being made in the area of timely intervention, delivery of services, and any areas in the system which can be improved.

### Section One: Completion Statistics

The Anchorage Youth Court received 440 referrals from Juvenile Intake during Calendar Year 1998. This represents a 14% decrease in referrals over Calendar Year 1997. The breakdown of these referrals is as follows:

Cases Completing Program	255 (58.0%)
Cases Not Completed	126 (28.6%)
a) Lack of effort	58
b) Recalled by Intake	20
c) No Show	13
d) Moved/Runaway	10
e) No contact after hearing	10
f) Inappropriate behavior	7
g) Chose MYC	3
h) Threatening behavior	2
i) Been to AYC previously	1
j) Possible gang involvement	1
k) No evidence to prosecute	1
Cases pending outcome	52 (11.8%)
Not accepted	7 ( 1.6%)

Of those cases which came to AYC and had the opportunity to work the program (363 cases), 255 have completed. This works out to approximately 70.25%. This number does not include those cases pending. Upon completion of all 1998 cases, an addendum will be added to the report.

The defendants of the Anchorage Youth Court are often sentenced to perform community restitution service and/ or pay monetary restitution to the victim. At this time 1998 AYC defendants have paid back \$5,083.23 (this does not include civil fines or program fees). In addition, 8851.3 hours have been paid back to the community by working at various non-profit, community centered sites. These numbers do not yet reflect the contribution of those 52 cases pending which are still working their sentence off. Only those who have successfully completed the program and those who have been returned to Juvenile Intake have been counted.

In the three years since the Making a Difference Program has been in existence, the Anchorage Youth Court has collected \$23,444.38 for victims and worked over 27,918.3 hours in Anchorage, Eagle River and Girdwood.

One of the goals of the Anchorage Youth Court is to significantly reduce the number of juvenile offenders who reoffend after completing the program. In October of 1998 a three year study was done on recidivism. The numbers indicate that for the students who completed the AYC program since their original crimes beginning in 1996 over 89.9% have not reoffended. Another recidivism check will be done in July of 1999.

## Section Two: Defendant Demographics

The second portion of this report will focus on the defendants and their collective make up. Varying aspects of AYC defendants have been examined and a number of statistics have been compiled.

<u>Age</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
under 12	0	0.00
12	22	5.00
13	61	13.86
14	83	18.86
15	104	23.64
16	79	17.95
17	91	20.68
18	0	0.00
unknown	0	0.00

Overall, the average age of an AYC defendant is 14.98 years.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
under 6	0	0.00
6	9	2.05
7	48	10.91
8	73	16.59
9	97	22.04
10	63	14.32
11	87	19.77
12	42	9.55
GED	0	0.00
Graduated	2	0.45
Unknown	19	4.32

The average AYC defendant has completed 9.40 grades.

In 1998, AYC defendants have been referred for the following charges:

<u>Charge</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Theft 3	162	30.9
Theft 4	128	24.4
Drug Possession 4	46	8.8
Criminal Mischief 3	30	5.7
Drug Possession 6	23	4.4
Assault 4	21	4.0
Theft 2	21	4.0
Criminal Mischief 2	20	3.8
Vehicle Theft 1	9	1.7
Burglary 1	6	1.1
Burglary 2	6	1.1
Criminal Mischief 4	6	1.1
Resisting Arrest	6	1.1
Criminal Trespass 2	5	1.0
Assault 3	4	0.8
Criminally Negligent Burning	4	0.8
Vehicle Tampering	4	0.8
False Information	3	0.6
Weapons Possession 5	3	0.6
Drug Possession 5	2	0.4
Forgery 2	2	0.4
Forgery 3	2	0.4
Possession Burglary Tools	2	0.4
Weapons Possession 4	2	0.4
Discharge of Firearms	1	0.2
Disorderly Conduct	1	0.2
Eluding	1	0.2
Reckless Endangerment	1	0.2
Tampering with Evidence	1	0.2
Theft of Services	1	0.2
Weapons Possession 3	1	0.2

The school of each defendant was also tabulated. The final, formal program report for this project will categorize zip codes of residence, but for easy recognition the school will be used at this time.

<u>School</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Dimond	54	12.27
Bartlett	51	11.59
Service	45	10.23
East	43	9.77
West	33	7.50
Chugiak	31	7.05
Clark	20	4.55
Wendler	19	4.32
Hanshew	15	3.41
Romig	14	3.18
Not in School	12	2.73
Homeschool	12	2.73
SAVE	9	2.05
Benny Benson	8	1.82
Elementary Schools	8	1.82
Gruening	8	1.82
Mears	8	1.82
Goldenview	6	1.36
Walden Pond	5	1.14
Adult Learning Center	4	0.91
Anchorage Christian	4	0.91
Mirror Lake	4	0.91
Steller	4	0.91
Central	3	0.68
Polaris	3	0.68
Whaley	3	0.68
Denali	2	0.45
Graduated	2	0.45
Jesse Lee	2	0.45
Unknown	2	0.45
Anchorage Jr. Academy	1	0.23
Grace Christian	1	0.23
King Career Center	1	0.23
Lumen Christi	1	0.23
North Anchorage Christian	1	0.23
Truevine	1	0.23

The breakdown of the defendants' ethnic backgrounds are as follows:

<u>Ethnic Group</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Caucasian	280	63.64
African American	45	10.23
Asian/Pacific Islander	34	7.73
Multimacial	31	7.05
AK Native	28	6.36
Hispanic	17	3.86
American Indian	5	1.14

#### Previous Criminal History

The defendants who were first time offenders numbered 326 (74.09%)

The defendants who have previous charges on record numbered 114 (25.91%)

a) one previous charge	90
b) two previous charges	18
c) three previous charges	4
d) more than three prev. charges	2

In assessing the gender make up of AYC defendants, it was found that 271 are male and 169 are female. The exact numbers and percentages are listed.

<u>Gender</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Male	271	61.59
Female	169	38.41

### Section Three: Program Performance

The final section examines AYC's delivery of service and program performance. It is essential that AYC and Juvenile Intake work together to insure a rapid completion of sentence, which in turn allows the defendant to connect the action and the social response. The following numbers reflect the direction that the program is moving towards attaining this goal. Also, the numbers in this section reflect only those cases referred directly to AYC.

An original goal of AYC and the Making a Difference Program was for defendants to attend an arraignment (and sentencing hearing if "guilty" or "no contest" plea) within 10 days of referral. On a month by month basis, the goal of a 10 day or less hearing was measured as follows:

<u>Month</u>	<u>Performance</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
January	met goal 24 out of 25 cases	96.00
February	met goal 36 out of 39 cases	92.31
March	met goal 27 out of 38 cases	71.05
April	met goal 33 out of 33 cases	100.00
May	met goal 38 out of 42 cases	90.48
June	met goal 27 out of 32 cases	84.38
July	met goal 16 out of 19 cases	84.21
August	met goal 42 out of 44 cases	95.45
September	met goal 44 out of 56 cases	78.57
October	met goal 17 out of 19 cases	89.47
November	met goal 21 out of 21 cases	100.00
December	met goal 2 out of 31 cases	6.45
Total	met goal 327 out of 399 cases	81.95

AYC's poorest performance months of March and December were anticipated due to school vacation/ court recess.

Finally, in assessing the speed of completion (from arrest to referral to completion), the following table has been constructed:

<u>Month</u>	<u>Arr. to Ref.</u>	<u>Ref. to Hear</u>	<u>Hear. to Close</u>	<u>Total</u>
January	14.89 days	9.40 days	38.81 days	63.10 days
February	10.80	10.18	38.18	59.16
March	11.76	10.76	42.95	65.47
April	14.03	9.09	46.63	69.75
May	16.51	9.98	45.36	71.85
June	12.61	11.53	42.13	66.27
July	15.13	10.32	40.95	66.40
August	17.26	8.91	53.68	79.85
September	16.78	9.43	50.74	76.95
October	23.37	10.21	43.71	77.29
November	26.83	8.76	No Signif. Data	NSD
December	33.76	18.13	NSD	NSD
Totals	17.13	10.49	45.00	72.62

## Summary

In analyzing the data, it appears that the Anchorage Youth Court is effective not only in the short term, but also over a considerable length of time. Recidivism for defendants that have committed their offense up to 36 months ago is maintaining itself at the 10-11% mark. The recidivism rate is approximately 2% less than the previous recidivism check results. A note of interest is Juvenile Intake's recent use of AYC a middle level intervention. Should this trend continue, results may deviate from the norm due to a more deeply ingrained behavioral pattern and the average defendant being older than previous defendants.

Regarding AYC's delivery of services, outcomes have been extremely encouraging. Despite having Juvenile Intake rehire two Making a Difference slots and both AYC and Juvenile Intake moving, the overall numbers remain similar to previous numbers. It is expected that as all positions are filled and agencies acclimate to new environments, the total numbers will increase. Also, the community restitution site network has held despite the growth in numbers: there is virtually no change in length of time spent in the system.

AYC continues to expand its statistical information by tracking new categories pertaining to parental involvement and frequency of crimes at varying businesses. In addition, the Making a Difference Program is continuing to fine tune procedures to insure that the efficient flow of cases continues uninterrupted. It is fair to say that the initial pilot program has yielded positive results and is extremely encouraging. The Youth Restitution Center will continue to collect data in order to monitor changes in trends as well as long term recidivism.

**Juvenile Arrests January - August 1996 to 1995  
DECREASES IN ARRESTS DURING CURFEW HOURS**

Charge	During Curfew	Non-Curfew Hours	Overall
Robbery	57% ↓	14% ↑	3% ↓
Assaults	68% ↓	13% ↑	4% ↑
Burglary	86% ↓	40% ↑	9% ↑
Thefts	58% ↓	17% ↑	13% ↑
Vandalism	14% ↓	12% ↑	8% ↑
Auto Theft	50% ↓	62% ↓	61% ↓
DWI	25% ↓	500% ↑	100% ↑
Other Alcohol Offenses	73% ↓	83% ↓	80% ↓
Disorderly Conduct	40% ↓	16% ↓	21% ↓
Trespass	38% ↓	10% ↑	5% ↑
Reckless Driving	100% ↓	25% ↓	37% ↓
Fleeing or Eluding	100% ↓	80% ↓	85% ↓
Fail to Appear Warrants	32% ↓	12% ↓	18% ↓
<b>Total Juvenile Arrests</b>	<b>32% ↓</b>	<b>6% ↑</b>	<b>2% ↑</b>

**INCREASES IN ARRESTS DURING CURFEW HOURS**

Charge	During Curfew	Non-Curfew Hours	Overall
Sexual Assault	200% ↑ (2 vs. 0 last year)	67% ↓	44% ↓
Weapons Offenses	20% ↑	4% ↑	6% ↑
Drug Offenses	150% ↑	7% ↑	11% ↑
Reckless Endangerment	500% ↑	61% ↓	33% ↓
Suspended/Revoked Lic.	67% ↑	300% ↑	167% ↑
Parole Violation	300% ↑	100% ↑	120% ↑
Resisting/Interfering	50% ↑	24% ↓	15% ↓
Providing False Info	50% ↑	83% ↑	77% ↑

**CURFEW** 56500% ↑ (1132 vs. 2 last year)

Please refer to the attached arrest category detail report for more information on actual numbers of arrests.

Date 4/20	# pgs 7	Anchorage Youth Court
To: Kate		From: Sharon
Co:		
Pl#		Phone #: (907) 274-5966
Fax: 405-4419		Fax #: (907) 272-0491

ANCHORAGE POLICE DEPARTMENT Comparison of Juvenile Arrests JAN. - AUG. 1996 to Same Period in 1995	DURING CURFEW HOURS			DURING NON-CURFEW HOURS			OVERALL		
CHARGE DESCRIPTION	Jan-Aug 1995	Jan-Aug 1996	% DIFF.	Jan-Aug 1995	Jan-Aug 1996	% DIFF.	Jan-Aug 1995	Jan-Aug 1996	% DIFF.
MANSLAUGHTER	0	0	0%	1	0	-100%	1	0	-100%
1ST DEGREE SEXUAL ASSAULT	0	2	200%	2	2	0%	2	4	100%
2ND DEGREE SEXUAL ASSAULT	0	0	0%	7	1	-86%	7	1	-86%
SEXUAL ASSAULTS - ALL	0	2	200%	9	3	-67%	9	5	-44%
1ST DEGREE ROBBERY	4	3	-25%	10	8	-20%	14	11	-21%
2ND DEGREE ROBBERY	3	0	-100%	12	17	42%	15	17	13%
ROBBERIES - ALL	7	3	-57%	22	25	14%	29	28	-3%
1ST DEGREE ASSAULT	2	2	0%	0	3	300%	2	5	150%
2ND DEGREE ASSAULT	0	1	100%	6	6	100%	6	7	17%
3RD DEGREE ASSAULT	6	1	-83%	42	36	-14%	48	37	-23%
4TH DEGREE ASSAULT	4	0	-100%	37	42	14%	41	42	2%
ASSAULT & BATTERY	16	5	-69%	134	161	20%	150	166	11%
ASSAULTS - ALL	28	9	-68%	219	248	13%	247	257	4%
1ST DEGREE BURGLARY	2	2	0%	31	63	103%	33	65	97%
2ND DEGREE BURGLARY	12	0	-100%	27	18	-33%	39	18	-54%
POSSESSION OF BURGLARY TOOLS	0	0	0%	4	0	-100%	4	0	-100%
ATTEMPTED BURGLARY	0	0	0%	1	1	0%	1	1	0%
BURGLARIES - ALL	14	2	-86%	58	81	40%	77	84	9%
1ST DEGREE THEFT	0	0	0%	0	8	800%	0	8	800%
2ND DEGREE THEFT	10	0	-100%	49	75	53%	59	75	27%
3RD DEGREE THEFT	19	3	-84%	44	49	11%	63	52	-17%
4TH DEGREE THEFT	2	3	50%	31	39	26%	33	42	27%
LARCENY	5	8	60%	46	43	-7%	51	51	0%
SHOPLIFT	4	3	-25%	48	554	15%	485	557	15%
DEFRAUDING INNKEEPER	0	0	0%	5	3	-40%	5	3	-40%
RETENTION OF LOST PROPERTY	0	0	0%	1	0	-100%	1	0	-100%
THEFTS - ALL	40	17	-58%	651	760	17%	697	785	13%

Comparison of Juvenile Arrests JAN. - AUG. 1996 Same Period in 1995	DURING CURFEW HOURS			DURING NON-CURFEW HOURS			OVERALL		
	Jan-Aug 1995	Jan-Aug 1996	% DIFF.	Jan-Aug 1995	Jan-Aug 1996	% DIFF.	Jan-Aug 1995	Jan-Aug 1996	% DIFF.
3RD DEGREE CRIMINAL MISCHIEF -- VEHICLE	5	0	-100%	31	13	-58%	36	13	-64%
2ND DEGREE CRIMINAL MISCHIEF -- VEHICLE	2	2	0%	16	8	-50%	18	10	-44%
1ST DEGREE CRIMINAL MISCHIEF -- VEHICLE	1	0	-100%	24	4	-83%	25	4	-84%
EFFECT OF VEHICLE AND JOYRIDING	4	4	0%	45	12	-73%	49	16	-67%
3RD DEGREE VEHICLE THEFT	0	0	0%	0	7	700%	0	7	700%
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF VEHICLE/VEHICLE THEFT -- ALL	12	6	-50%	116	44	-62%	128	50	-61%
UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF PROPERTY	0	2	200%	0	0	0%	0	2	200%
3RD DEGREE ARSON	0	0	0%	4	2	-50%	4	2	-50%
2ND DEGREE ARSON	0	0	0%	5	5	0%	5	5	0%
RECKLESSLY NEGLIGENT BURNING	0	0	0%	0	6	600%	0	6	600%
ARSON - ALL	0	0	0%	9	13	44%	9	13	44%
3RD DEGREE FORGERY	9	0	0%	1	0	-100%	1	0	-100%
2ND DEGREE FORGERY	0	0	0%	9	13	44%	9	13	44%
1ST DEGREE FORGERY	0	0	0%	0	2	200%	0	2	200%
FRAUDULENT USE OF A CREDIT CARD -- MISD.	0	0	0%	4	3	-25%	4	3	-25%
FAKING BUSINESS RECORDS	0	0	0%	0	1	100%	0	1	100%
FRAUD/FORGERY - ALL	0	0	0%	14	19	36%	14	19	36%
3RD DEGREE CRIMINAL MISCHIEF -- VANDALISM	0	0	0%	0	1	100%	0	1	100%
2ND DEGREE CRIMINAL MISCHIEF -- VANDALISM	17	5	-71%	34	36	6%	51	41	-20%
1ST DEGREE CRIMINAL MISCHIEF -- VANDALISM	2	6	200%	21	33	57%	23	39	70%
RECKLESSLY NEGLIGENT DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY	4	5	25%	61	56	-8%	63	61	-6%
INTERFERING WITH A VEHICLE	5	6	20%	9	16	78%	14	22	57%
GRAFFITI/RELATED VANDALISM 8.05.375	0	1	100%	0	0	100%	0	1	100%
VANDALISM -- ALL	28	24	-14%	132	148	12%	160	172	8%

of Juvenile Arrests JAN. - AUG. 1996 and in 1995	DURING CURFEW HOURS			DURING NON-CURFEW HOURS			OVERALL OVERALL		
	Jan-Aug 1995	Jan-Aug 1996	% DIFF.	Jan-Aug 1995	Jan-Aug 1996	% DIFF.	Jan-Aug 1995	Jan-Aug 1996	% DIFF.
MISCONDUCT INVOLVING WEAPONS	0	0	0%	0	1	100%	0	1	100%
MISCONDUCT INVOLVING WEAPONS	0	0	0%	0	2	200%	0	2	200%
MISCONDUCT INVOLVING WEAPONS	1	3	200%	2	8	300%	3	11	267%
WEAPON	3	2	-33%	20	15	-25%	23	17	-26%
USE OF FIREARMS	0	0	0%	7	2	-71%	7	2	-71%
USE OF WEAPON WITH INTENT TO ASSAULT	0	0	0%	1	0	-100%	1	0	-100%
SCHOOL GROUNDS	0	0	0%	11	16	45%	11	16	45%
MISCONDUCT INVOLVING WEAPONS	0	6	600%	6	13	117%	6	19	217%
MISCONDUCT INVOLVING WEAPONS	4	1	-75%	29	21	-28%	33	22	-33%
USE OF WEAPONS BY MINOR	2	0	-100%	3	4	33%	5	4	-20%
OFFENSES - ALL	10	12	20%	79	82	4%	89	94	6%
PROSTITUTION	0	0	0%	2	1	-50%	2	1	-50%
OFFENSE OR PROSTITUTION	0	1	100%	0	0	100%	0	1	100%
USE OF A PLACE FOR PURPOSE OF PROST.	0	0	0%	0	1	100%	0	1	100%
OFFENSES - ALL	0	1	100%	2	2	0%	2	3	50%
SEXUAL ABUSE OF MINOR	0	0	0%	1	3	200%	1	3	200%
SEXUAL ABUSE OF MINOR	0	0	0%	14	10	-29%	14	10	-29%
SEXUAL ABUSE OF MINOR	0	0	0%	10	19	90%	10	19	90%
SEXUAL ABUSE OF MINOR OFFENSES - ALL	0	0	0%	25	32	28%	25	32	28%
MISCONDUCT INVOLV--POSS NARCOTIC	1	1	0%	3	2	-33%	4	3	-25%
MISCONDUCT INVOLV--POSS DANG. DRUGS	0	0	0%	4	1	-75%	4	1	-75%
MISCONDUCT INVOLV--SALE NARCOTICS	0	0	0%	2	4	100%	2	4	100%
MISCONDUCT INVOLV--SALE DANG. DRUGS	0	0	0%	1	0	-100%	1	0	-100%
MISCONDUCT INVOLV--SALE MARIJUANA	0	0	0%	3	4	33%	3	4	33%
MISCONDUCT INVOLV--POSS NARCOTIC	0	2	200%	6	9	50%	6	11	83%
MISCONDUCT INVOLV--SALE DANG. DRUGS	0	0	0%	1	1	0%	1	1	0%
MISCONDUCT INVOLV--SALE NARCOTICS	0	0	0%	1	0	-100%	1	0	-100%

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Comparison of Juvenile Arrests JAN. - AUG. 1996 to Same Period in 1995	DURING CURFEW HOURS			DURING NON-CURFEW HOURS			OVERALL		
	Jan-Aug 1995	Jan-Aug 1996	% DIFF.	Jan-Aug 1995	Jan-Aug 1996	% DIFF.	Jan-Aug 1995	Jan-Aug 1996	% DIFF.
CHARGE DESCRIPTION									
4TH DEGREE MISCONDUCT INVOLV-SALE/POSS MARIJUANA	0	0	0%	45	50	11%	45	50	11%
5TH DEGREE MISCONDUCT INVOLV-POSS DANG. DRUG	0	0	0%	0	1	100%	0	1	100%
5TH DEGREE MISCONDUCT INVOLV-POSS MARIJUANA	0	0	0%	2	4	100%	2	4	100%
6TH DEGREE MISCONDUCT INVOLV-POSS MARIJUANA	3	7	133%	54	54	0%	57	61	7%
DRUG OFFENSES - ALL	4	10	150%	122	130	7%	126	140	11%
CHILD ABUSE	0	0	0%	0	1	100%	0	1	100%
POSS/SALE TOBACCO PRODUCT TO MINOR	0	0	0%	2	3	50%	2	3	50%
DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED	4	3	-25%	0	5	500%	4	8	100%
MINOR IN POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL	5	1	-80%	19	5	-74%	24	6	-75%
MINOR ON PREMISES WHERE ALCOHOL IS SOLD	0	1	100%	0	0	200%	0	1	100%
MINOR CONSUMING ALCOHOL	9	2	-78%	20	2	-90%	29	4	-86%
MINOR ALCOHOL CHGS TITLE 4	1	0	-100%	1	0	-100%	2	0	-100%
MINORS - ALCOHOL OFFENSES - ALL (EXCEPT DWI)	15	4	-73%	40	7	-83%	55	11	-80%
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	5	3	-40%	19	16	-16%	24	19	-21%
RECKLESS ENDANGERMENT	0	5	500%	18	7	-61%	18	12	-33%
PUBLIC EXCRETION/INDECENT EXPOSURE	0	0	0%	1	9	800%	1	9	800%
2ND DEGREE STALKING	0	0	0%	0	1	100%	0	1	100%
KIDNAPPING	0	2	200%	2	0	-100%	2	2	0%
EXTORTION	0	0	0%	2	0	-100%	2	0	-100%
COERCION	0	0	0%	10	0	-100%	10	0	-100%
1ST DEGREE CRIMINAL TRESPASS	2	0	-100%	5	18	200%	8	18	125%
2ND DEGREE CRIMINAL TRESPASS	1	0	-100%	1	7	600%	2	7	250%
UNAUTHORIZED ENTRY - TRESPASS	5	5	0%	60	49	-18%	65	54	-17%
TRESPASS - ALL	8	5	-38%	67	74	10%	75	79	5%
1ST DEGREE HINDERING PROSECUTION	0	0	0%	1	2	100%	1	2	100%
HARASSMENT	0	0	0%	5	0	-100%	5	0	-100%

Comparison of Juvenile Arrests JAN. - AUG. 1996 to Same Period in 1995	DURING CURFEW HOURS			DURING NON-CURFEW HOURS			OVERALL		
	CHARGE DESCRIPTION	Jan-Aug 1995	Jan-Aug 1996	% DIFF.	Jan-Aug 1995	Jan-Aug 1996	% DIFF.	Jan-Aug 1995	Jan-Aug 1996
ILLEGAL USE OF TELEPHONE	0	0	0%	0	1	100%	0	1	100%
VIOLATION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ORDER	0	0	0%	0	2	200%	0	2	200%
LEAVING THE SCENE OF AN INJURY ACCIDENT	1	0	-100%	0	3	300%	1	3	200%
LEAVING THE SCENE OF A PROPERTY DAMAGE ACCIDENT	0	1	100%	10	8	-20%	10	9	-10%
LEAVING THE SCENE OF ACCIDENT - ALL	1	1	0%	10	11	10%	11	12	9%
DRIVE WITH SUSPENDED/REVOKED LICENSE	3	5	67%	0	3	300%	3	8	167%
RECKLESS DRIVING	3	0	-100%	16	12	-25%	19	12	-37%
REFUSAL TO SUBMIT TO CHEMICAL TESTS	1	0	-100%	0	0	0%	1	0	-100%
FLEEING OR ATTEMPTING TO ELUDE POLICE	3	0	-100%	10	2	-80%	13	2	-85%
MISC TRAFFIC OFFENSE	1	0	-100%	0	0	0%	1	0	-100%
FAILURE TO APPEAR - MISDEMEANOR	28	19	-32%	65	57	-12%	93	76	-18%
CONTEMPT OF COURT - MISDEMEANOR	1	0	-100%	2	1	-50%	3	1	-67%
PAROLE VIOLATION - MISDEMEANOR	0	3	300%	15	30	100%	15	33	120%
FUGITIVE -- MISDEMEANOR	1	0	-100%	0	0	0%	1	0	-100%
FAMILY OFFENSES - JUVENILE WARRANT SERVICE	3	4	33%	46	63	37%	49	67	37%
2ND DEGREE ESCAPE	0	0	0%	0	1	100%	0	1	100%
3RD DEGREE ESCAPE	0	0	0%	0	1	100%	0	1	100%
4TH DEGREE ESCAPE	0	0	0%	1	0	-100%	1	0	-100%
RESISTING OR INTERFERING WITH AN ARREST	6	9	50%	41	31	-24%	47	40	-15%
CRUELTY TO ANIMALS	0	0	0%	0	2	200%	0	2	200%
LETTERING AND DEFACING	0	0	0%	3	0	-100%	3	0	-100%
FALSE REPORT OF CRIME	0	0	0%	0	1	100%	0	1	100%

Comparison of Juvenile Arrests JAN. - AUG. 1996 to Same Period in 1995	DURING CURFEW HOURS			DURING NON-CURFEW HOURS			OVERALL		
	Jan-Aug 1995	Jan-Aug 1996	% DIFF.	Jan-Aug 1995	Jan-Aug 1996	% DIFF.	Jan-Aug 1995	Jan-Aug 1996	% DIFF.
PROVIDING FALSE INFO	4	6	50%	13	33	83%	22	39	77%
VIOLATION OF CONDITIONS OF RELEASE	0	0	0%	1	0	-100%	1	0	-100%
TOTAL ARRESTS FOR ALL CHARGES EXCEPT CURFEW	230	157	-32%	1365	1575	5%	2095	2132	2%
CURFEW*	2	1132	56500%	2	0	-100%	4	1132	25200%

\*The new curfew ordinance went into effect on January 1st, 1996 but enforcement was conducted on a warranting basis until the end of February. The previous curfew ordinance had enforcement hours different from the new ordinance. The two curfew charges shown as occurring during non-curfew hours in 1995 were issued under the old hours.

February 11, 1999

## Anchorage Youth Court House Bill #28 Position Paper

Youth and adults volunteer their time to operate youth peer courts. In Anchorage over 350 youth and 100 attorneys volunteer annually. However, youth courts also require funding. Each youth court needs at least one paid person, an office, equipment and supplies to operate effectively. To organize and provide long term operation beneficial to their communities, youth courts need sources of permanent funding that they can depend upon. House Bill #28 will serve as one important source to ensure the ongoing opportunities that youth courts provide in Alaska.

Youth courts benefit their communities and the state by preventing and deterring juvenile criminal behavior. Youth Courts

- teach understanding and respect for the law through classes, hands-on participation and utilizing positive peer influence;
- provide redress to victims, through restitution earned by defendants, and a chance for victims to address the court;
- restore the community for breaking its laws through appropriate community work service;
- mandate education to deter further criminal behavior, such as shoplifting, alcohol and marijuana involvement, fire-starting, fighting, weapons involvement, domestic violence, etc.;
- provide insight through jail tours and adult sentencing hearings for defendants to see first hand what will happen to them, if they continue to break the law;
- require defendants to earn money or work in the youth court office to pay for participating in youth court, which reinforces personal responsibility for consequences;
- offer opportunities for adults to serve as role models for youth, and for youth and adults to build respect and appreciation through working together;
- provide safe, supervised, structured after school experiences for youth in grades 7 - 12;
- build skills such as public speaking, office occupations and management; consensus building; teamwork; running a non profit board of directors, and active citizenship; and
- foster ownership and pride in the community.

Youth Courts, with their low recidivism rate, education programs and active youth involvement, alleviate the court system's case load. Over 1,341 juvenile criminal cases have been referred to Anchorage Youth Court, since 1996. Over 89% of the defendants who completed youth court have not reoffended over the three years. Likewise, the State saves at least \$40,000 annually for each defendant, who does not reoffend and reside in McLaughlin.

Anchorage Youth Court believes that (1) Alaska's youth who work to deter juvenile crime need and deserve stable financial support; (2) a surcharge on adult defendants, who commit misdemeanors, infractions and violations, is appropriate to deter juvenile crime; and (3) support of House Bill #28 will demonstrate to youth and adults Statewide, that the people of Alaska value positive youth involvement and active citizenship.



# Mat-Su Youth Court

1801 Parks Highway, Suite C-06  
Wasilla, AK 99654

Phone: (907) 373-5193 • Fax: (907) 373-5393  
E-Mail: msyc@alaska.net

February 19, 1999

Representative Eric Croft  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Rep. Croft:

I am writing this letter to you to express my support for HB 28. This bill is to help provide funding for Youth Courts statewide through a juvenile justice fund.

I will speak to you from my own personal experience in working with juveniles in Alaska, and how important youth courts are in prevention and intervention of juvenile crime. I have worked in the juvenile justice field for over 15 years. Most of my experience came from working at McLaughlin Youth Center, where I was a youth counselor for youth who were institutionalized for long-term treatment. The families and delinquent youth were sometimes very difficult to work with, as the dysfunction had been going on for many years. Change does not come easily when family problems are not addressed early, before patterns of delinquent behavior are set.

After coming to work for the Mat-Su Youth Court, I became excited to see hope in working with these youth who have committed minor crimes. The families are almost always cooperative, and the youth show remorse for what they have done. The delinquent behavior is given immediate attention, and the youth and their family work together to insure that it doesn't happen again. The youth court members always give a clear message that the misguided youth is still a good person; they just need to stop their unacceptable behaviors that brought them to youth court. The youth that complete the youth court program for their crimes learn more about the juvenile justice system through their peers, by being defended, prosecuted, and judged by them. The offending youth also give back to their community by volunteering their time to help in non-profit agencies. The youth then process all this information by writing a lengthy essay telling about their youth court experience. This kind of intervention is needed if we truly

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Coyla Sweet, Drug Free Schools  
Mat-Su School District

James Mestlak  
MSYC Volunteer

Student Representative  
MSYC Student Bar Assoc.

## STAFF

Leo Makar  
Program Coordinator

Connessa Cassell  
Case Manager

Ebonn Markiel  
Secretary

The logo of the Mat-Su Youth Court is the Ancient Greek Goddess of Justice. The scales symbolize the fair weighing of conflicting claims, and her sword the power to protect the public and punish wrongdoers.

Rep. Eric Croft  
February 19, 1999  
Page Two

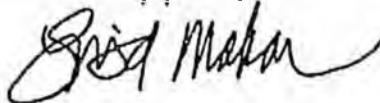
want youth to change their thinking and actions toward committing crimes. Families support their teenager to make this happen by helping the youth complete their youth court sentence. Every youth who goes through the youth court program is invited to join as a member, being told that they have first-hand experience in what it is like to commit a crime, and then make it right to their families and their communities.

Another added benefit is the education the youth court members receive. They are taught by adult attorneys and judges who volunteer their time to work with youth. The student members put in a minimum of ninety hours in the program and are committed to helping in the task of prevention and intervention of juvenile crime. They also receive on-going training in law-related areas while they are in the program.

I truly believe in the youth court concept as a successful prevention/intervention program. Those youth who are arrested for the first time are now receiving direct consequences for breaking the law, and are told that their behavior was not okay, and they now have a chance to set their lives back on the right track.

Please let me know if you would like more information about the Mat-Su Youth Court. If I am able to help out further with the promotion of HB 28 do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,



Lisa Makar  
MSYC Program Coordinator

MAT-SU YOUTH COURT  
1997 STATISTICS

126 Total cases.

35 Cases sent back to Youth Corrections for various reasons.

91 Cases processed in MSYC.

3 Cases closed for reoffenses.

Race make-up: 118-White, 2-African American, 3-Alaska Native, 3-Unknown

Gender make-up: 72-Males, 54-Females

Average age of defendants: 14.5 years old

Average time arraignment to completion: 67 days

Average time referral to completion: 103 days

Types of offenses: Theft: 77 cases/62%  
Assault: 8 cases/6%  
Criminal Mischief: 11 cases/9%  
MICS: 17 cases/13.5%  
Criminal Trespass: 6 cases/5%  
Misc. Involving Weapons: 2 cases/1.5%  
Concealment of Merchandise: 4 cases/3%

80 Cases completed successfully this year.

94% Success rate. This means that 94% of the defendants who completed the program in 1997 have not reoffended.

\$620.20 was paid in restitution to victims.

1,767 Hours were worked by defendants at various community work service agencies.

The following is the breakdown of arresting agencies for the cases we have seen in 1997 in MSYC:

Alaska State Troopers - 24 cases/19%  
Anchorage Police Department - 21 cases/17%  
Palmer Police Department - 20 cases/16%  
Wasilla Police Department - 61 cases/48%

The following is the breakdown of defendant resident locations for 1997 MSYC cases:

Anchorage - 1%  
Chickaloon - .5%  
Palmer - 25%  
Talkeetna - 1%  
Willow - 3%

Big Lake - 5%  
Elmendorf AFB - .5%  
Sutton - 2%  
Wasilla - 62%

The following are the resident locations for our Youth Court members:

Big Lake - 5%  
Talkeetna - 12%  
Willow - 3%

Palmer - 29%  
Wasilla - 51%

71 Students successfully completed Youth Court training in 1997.

**MAT-SU YOUTH COURT**  
**1998 STATISTICS**

132 Total cases referred to MSYC.

42 Cases sent back to Youth Corrections for various reasons.

90 Cases processed in MSYC.

3 Cases closed for reoffenses.

Race make-up: 119-Caucasian, 1-African American, 7-Alaska Native,  
3-Asian/Pacific Islander, 2-Hispanic

Gender make-up: 77 Males, 55 Females

Average age of defendants: 14.5 years old.

Average time arraignment to completion: 49 days.

Average time referral to completion: 104 days.

Types of offenses heard in MSYC:

Theft: 88 cases/62%

Assault: 5 cases/4%

Criminal Mischief: 3 cases/2%

MICS: 26 cases/18%

Criminal Trespass: 3 cases/2%

Misconduct Involving Weapons: 2 cases/1%

Concealment of Merchandise: 14 cases/10%

Burglary: 2 cases/1%

99 Cases completed successfully in 1998.

92% Success rate. This means that 92% of the defendants who  
completed the program in 1998 have not  
reoffended.

\$102.00 was paid in restitution to victims.

2,406 Hours were worked by defendants at various community work  
service agencies.

The following is the breakdown of arresting agencies for the cases we have seen in 1998 in MSYC:

Alaska State Troopers: 19 cases/14.5%  
Anchorage Police Department: 16 cases/12%  
Palmer Police Department: 20 cases/15%  
Wasilla Police Department: 77 cases/58.5%

The following is the breakdown of defendant resident locations for 1998 MSYC cases:

Talkeetna: 1/1.5%	Hatcher Pass: 1/1.5%
Palmer: 34/26%	Big Lake: 6/5%
Willow: 2/1.75%	Sutton: 2/1.75%
Chugiak: 1/1.5%	Wasilla: 79/60%
Unalaska: 1/1.5%	King Salmon: 1/1.5%
Houston: 4/3%	

The following are the resident locations for our Youth Court members:

Big Lake: 4%  
Palmer: 32%  
Wasilla: 64%

The following are the schools our Youth Court members attend:

Athenium: 1/2%	Cornerstone Christian: 2/4%
Colony High: 24/51%	Colony Middle: 4/9%
Houston High: 3/6%	Palmer High: 6/13%
Palmer Jr./Mid.: 1/2%	Wasilla High: 5/11%
Wasilla Middle: 1/2%	

21 Students successfully completed Youth Court training in 1998.



Anchorage Youth Court  
PO Box 102735  
Anchorage, AK 99510  
Phone: (907) 274-5986 • Fax: (907) 272-0491

Representative Eric Croft

Enclosed are documents which represent the following:

- 1 Letters of support from members and parents.
2. Parent Evaluations - these are feedback from defendant's parents.
3. Excerpted comments from a defendant survey.
4. 1998 and 1999 evaluation forms for AYC attorneys and judges filled out by volunteer adult attorneys who supervise in-court work.
5. A letter to Commissioner Pugh regarding the AYC jail tour sentencing component.
6. A parent's letter accompanying a donation.
7. Several thank-yous for presentations that AYC staff has made in the community or to training groups.
8. The 25 effectiveness qualities of the Anchorage Youth Court model and some brochure literature.

If we can provide any further information, please let me know.

Sincerely,  
ANCHORAGE YOUTH COURT

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda Johnson".

Linda Johnson  
Legal Advisor

*ayc@micronet.net*

*"A New Generation for Justice"*



**Anchorage Youth Court**  
PO Box 102735  
Anchorage, AK 99510  
Phone: (907) 274-5986 • Fax: (907) 272-0491

February 11, 1999

Representative Eric Croft  
State Capitol, Room 400  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Croft:

Thank you for your sponsorship of House Bill #28, which can provide needed funding for youth courts statewide. Enclosed is the Anchorage Youth Court position paper relating to the Bill. If you need additional information, please call.

Sincerely,  
ANCHORAGE YOUTH COURT

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Sharon A. Leon'.

Sharon A. Leon  
Executive Director

*"A New Generation for Justice"*

Date: Wed, 03 Feb 1999 22:31:08 -0800  
From: graham <epgraham@gci.net>  
X-Accept-Language: en  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
To: ayc@micronet.net  
Subject: HB 28

February 3, 1999

Dear Representative Croft,

Our son Germaine Graham, has been an active AYC member since January 1998.

AYC is not only a justice program; it is a self-esteem booster. Germaine,s self-confidence and leadership abilities have greatly improved.

The benefits of this program are invaluable; it allows students to participate on a voluntary basis and still develop a skill that can last them a lifetime.

We have personally witnessed Middle School age students observe AYC members conduct mock trials; with the anticipation that one day they too would be able to enroll in the program.

We also see the program as a way to allow teens that make a mistake for the first time to get a second chance.

We support HB 28, and we encourage you to continue to look out for our youth.

Thank you,  
Elsie and Patricia Graham

OCTOBER 21, 1998

COMMISSIONER MARGARET PUGH  
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS  
P.O. BOX 112000  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811

DEAR COMMISSIONER PUGH,

MY DAUGHTER WAS ASSIGNED TO DO A TOUR OF THE COOK INLET PRETRIAL FACILITY. DUE TO RESTRICTIONS PLACED ON THE ANCHORAGE YOUTH COURT, THE ONLY TIME SHE MAY DO THE TOUR IS ON A FRIDAY MORNING.

THIS PROGRAM IS MEANT TO NIP IN THE BUD JUVENILE CRIME. BY LIMITING THE ACCESS TO THE TOUR TO A SCHOOL TIME DURING THE WEEK ONLY LEADS TO MORE TIME MISSED BY A STUDENT WHO IF IN AYC IS MOST LIKELY ALREADY SOMEWHAT AT RISK. ANY ADDITIONAL MISSED SCHOOL COULD LEAD TO ULTIMATE FAILURE OR LOWER GRADES WHICH THESE AT RISK CHILDREN CAN ILL AFFORD.

I HOPE THAT YOU RECONSIDER THIS SITUATION AND ALLOW AYC TO EITHER DO EVENING TOURS OR WEEKEND TOURS OF THE FACILITY. I THINK THIS IS A VERY GOOD PROGRAM JUST ONE THAT NEEDS TO BE AS POSITIVE TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR CHILDREN AS POSSIBLE.

IF YOU HAVE NOT WITNESSED THE AYC PROGRAM I ENCOURAGE YOU TO DO SO. I WAS HIGHLY IMPRESSED BY THE PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATION DISPLAYED BY BOTH THE STAFF AND THE STUDENTS WHO MAKE UP THE ANCHORAGE YOUTH COURT. IF THIS PROGRAM IS GOING TO WORK AND I BELIEVE IT WILL, IT NEEDS THE SUPPORT OF THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY, POLICE, PROSECUTOR, THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY AND YOUR DEPT. THROUGH THIS TYPE PROGRAM HOPEFULLY WE CAN MAKE YOUR BUDGET EASIER TO LIVE WITH, WITH LESS CRIMINALS FILLING THE WALLS OF ALASKA'S PRISONS.

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99504  
(907) :

CARENET, INC.™

January 4, 1999

Dear Anchorage Youth Court -

Enclosed is a small donation to defray a part of the increased rent. My daughter, Jocelyn Hastain, received your letter & asked me to help.

I want to let the officers and staff supporting the Youth Court endeavor that this is a very worthwhile activity for the young people in Anchorage. It would and will be a delight to see more teens participate and learn about our system of governance.

Thank you for all of the effort you put forth on behalf of others.

Regards,

Linda Hastain  
President

Arinda,

Thank you for presenting the legal issues section of the teen court training in Anchorage. You did a wonderful job making difficult issues easier to understand. The evaluations from participants were also very favorable.

I also appreciate you sitting with me and answering my questions during the youth court trial. I found the whole process very interesting and feel I have a better understanding of how that model works. The youth were great - please let them know - I was impressed.

Thanks again.

Tracy Hodwin

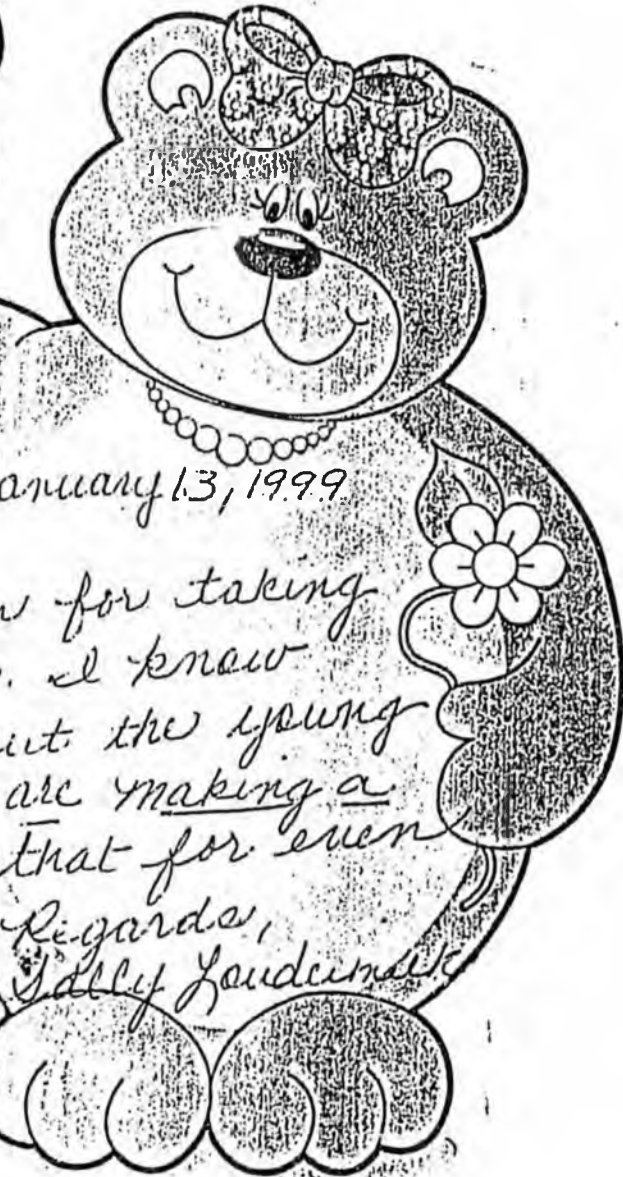
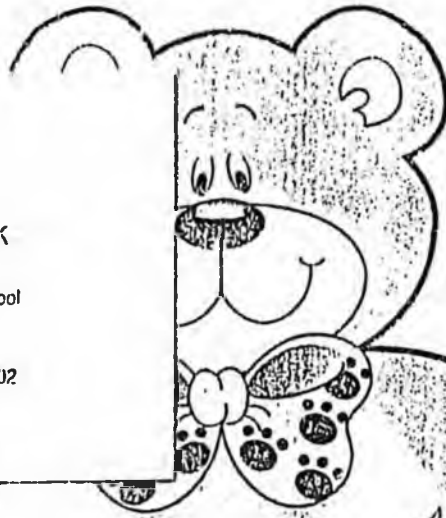


Anchorage  
School  
District

Sally Loudemilk

Teacher  
Lake Hood Elementary School

3601 W. 40th Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99517-2702  
(907) 245-5521 Fax (907) 245-5520  
Loudemilk.Sally@usmail.akd12.akus

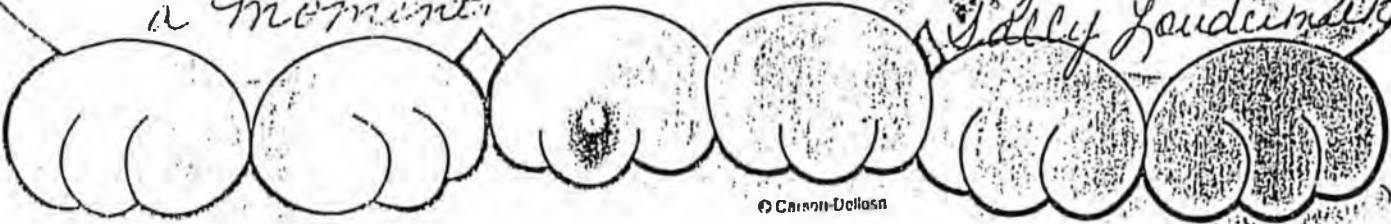


January 13, 1999

Dear Sharon,

Thank you once again for taking  
time to talk to my class. I know  
how deeply you care about the young  
people in Anchorage! You are making a  
difference, never forget that for even  
a moment.

Regards,  
Sally Loudemilk



3601 West 40<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Anchorage, AK 99517  
January, 13, 1999

Dear Mr. Leon,

Thank you, I really  
learned alot. I'm considering joining  
Youth Court. I can't wait till  
next year! I can just imagine  
being an attorney! I just hope the  
bar test isn't too hard. I'm really  
glad Youth Court was formed  
to give juveniles another chance.

Thank you again for taking  
your time to tell us about  
Youth court.

Sincerely,

Ryan Holmquist

3601 West 40<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Anchorage, AK 99517  
January 13, 1999

Dear Mrs. Leon,

I really enjoyed learning about the Anchorage Youth Court. I think it is a good way to give juveniles who made a bad choice a second chance. I learned that there are many steps as to become in the program such as taking the classes and passing the bar exam. I would someday like to join Anchorage Youth Court and start off as a bailiff.

Thank you for taking time off of your job to share with us about the Anchorage Youth Court. I've heard of the program before, but I never knew that they were actual cases. I have always thought that the kids involved just took turns doing everything. I enjoyed it alot. Thanks again!

Sincerely,

Carolyn Holmes

3601 West 40<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Anchorage, AK 99517  
Jan. 13, 1999

Dear Ms. Leon,

Thank you for giving us a tour of Anchorage Youth Court. I appreciate that you let us eat lunch in your meeting rooms and talked to us for a long time.

I learned a lot about how it works and I think next year it would be fun to be an attorney. I am very glad there is a system where kids get a second chance.

Sincerely,

Heather Martindale

3601 West 40th Ave.  
Anchorage, AK 99517  
January 18, 1999

Dear Miss Sharon Leon,

I, Loretta Nabony, thank you for teaching me and telling me about the Anchorage Youth Court program. I learned that the program gives a big extra chance for juveniles like myself - as well as other kids younger and older than I. I also learned that during my junior high and high school years the A.Y.C. is a good program to get involved in. To be involved in the A.Y.C. program, I think, it is a big handicap for students who plan to attend law school after high school. I too learned very much that the program is a good way to get to know the justice system as well as the court system.

I thank you very much for explaining laws and for describing how the program works. The things you told us made me interested in the program so much that I told my mother right after school. I especially thank you for letting us use your facilities to have lunch, which I say was pretty comfortable. I hope to see you again, but next time I hope I'll see you in a law exam meeting.

Sincerely, Loretta Nabony

Mat-Su Youth Court  
1801 Parks Hwy Suite C-06  
Wasilla Alaska 99654

Candy Sims  
P.O. Box 202380  
Anchorage AK 99520  
745-4834

March 10, 1999

RE: Support House Bill 28

Last summer I almost lost my son. Not to an accident or drugs or disease. The influence of a group of friends proved a much stronger temptation. After many phone calls and a little research a door opened for us. It lead to Youth Court, and now, nearly nine months later my son has returned. We're discovering things about each other we never knew before. I'm no longer the enemy. And that group of friends are a thing of the past. They're still around, but finally my son has learned that no one is worth destroying his image of himself and his connection with his family.

Thank you to all the people who work to keep Youth Court alive and available to our community. As my son's grades and attitude continue to improve I can only marvel at that door that opened up hope for us. Please help keep that door open for our youth and their families. Please, support your local Youth Court and House Bill 28 which provides for its funding.

Sincerely,

Candy Sims  
Grateful Mother



Anchorage Youth Court  
PO Box 102735  
Anchorage, AK 99510  
Phone: (907) 274-5986 • Fax: (907) 272-0491

February 3, 1999

For confidentiality, a defendant's comments on a survey completed October 31, 1998, are excerpted:

1. What part of the sentencing made the biggest impression on you?

"The fact that its real sentencing, and that they're really serious about things, because before I got there, I thought it was just fake/like a class or something, but now I know it's totally real."

2. Are there any changes in the Anchorage Youth Court that you feel are necessary?

"No, they are doing just fine and I had some good defense attorneys. Also the prosecuting attorneys did a really good job on arguing."

3. What is the most important thing that you have learned from the Anchorage Youth Court?

"That they don't play around, and they have studied for a long time, just to be able to defend kids (their age.) And its really neat."

*"A New Generation for Justice"*

What part of the process do you participate in? clerk \_\_\_\_\_ judge \_\_\_\_\_  
 attorney \_\_\_\_\_ volunteer legal advisor  \_\_\_\_\_ bailiff \_\_\_\_\_ AYC staff \_\_\_\_\_

Rate each of the following in overall performance on a scale of 1-5:  
 1 = excellent, 2 = above expectations, 3 = good, 4 = adequate, 5 = poor

2. Prosecution as a team 3 Defense as a team 3 Judges as a panel 2

	Pros. #1	Pros #2	Def. #1	Def. #2	Comments:
Name of attny	<u>Chen H</u>		<u>Haynie</u>	<u>Laumesser</u>	
preparation	<u>3</u>		<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	
delivery	<u>4</u>		<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	
decorum	<u>3</u>		<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	
sensitivity	<u>3</u>		<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	
personal responsibility	<u>3</u>		<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	
cooperation	<u>3</u>		<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	

	Presiding judge	#2 judge	#3 judge	Comments:
Name of judge	<u>Stuart Bannon</u>	<u>Neil Phukaan</u>	<u>Bill Edwards</u>	
presence	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	
confidence	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	
attentive	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	
control	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	
respectful	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	
delivery	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	
side bar	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	

4. Rate the following on the 1-5 scale: appropriateness of sentence 3

5. Do you think the experience helped the defendant? Why or why not?

*Yes. The presiding judge did an excellent job of educating defendant of the consequences of his actions and the benefits of AYC*

AYC CASE EVALUATION Case No. 386

To Be Completed By All Case Participants. Return to Legal Advisor

What part of the process do you participate in? clerk \_\_\_\_\_ judge \_\_\_\_\_  
 attorney \_\_\_\_\_ volunteer legal advisor  \_\_\_\_\_ bailiff \_\_\_\_\_ AYC staff \_\_\_\_\_

Rate each of the following in overall performance on a scale of 1-5:  
 1 = excellent, 2 = above expectations, 3 = good, 4 = adequate, 5 = poor

2. Prosecution as a team 1 Defense as a team 1 Judges as a panel 1

	Pros. #1	Pros #2	Def. #1	Def. #2	Comments:
Name of attny	<u>Jon Pierce</u>	<u>Michael Christoffers</u>	<u>Er. Walker</u>	<u>chugach</u>	
preparation	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<i>It responded well to the judges' questioning - A got a little flustered.</i>
delivery	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	
decorum	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	
sensitivity	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	
personal responsibility	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	
cooperation	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	

	Presiding judge	#2 judge	#3 judge	Comments:
Name of judge	<u>Bannon</u>	<u>Shepard</u>	<u>Yaeger</u>	
presence	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<i>Handled a complicated sentencing process very deliberately &amp; competently.</i>
confidence	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	
attentive	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	
control	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	
respectful	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	
delivery	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	
side bar	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	

4. Rate the following on the 1-5 scale: appropriateness of sentence 1

5. Do you think the experience helped the defendant? Why or why not?

*Yes - the seriousness of her offenses was discussed at length, and she appeared to take the process seriously.*

AYC CASE EVALUATION Case No. \_\_\_\_\_  
To Be Completed By All Case Participants. Return to Legal Advisor

1. What part of the process did you participate in? clerk \_\_\_\_\_ judge \_\_\_\_\_  
attorney \_\_\_\_\_ volunteer legal advisor X bailiff \_\_\_\_\_ AYC staff \_\_\_\_\_

2. Rate each of the following in overall performance on a scale of 1-5:  
1 = excellent, 2 = above average, 3 = average, 4 = below average, 5 = poor  
Prosecution as a team 2 Defense as a team 1 Judges as a panel 1

	Pros. #1	Pros #2	Def. #1	Def. #2
Name of atny	Laurina Finland	Graham S?	Bill Edwards	
preparation	2	1	1	
delivery	2	2	1	
decorum	1	1	1	
sensitivity	1	1	1	
personal responsibility	1	1	1	
cooperation	1	1	1	

	Presiding judge	#2 judge	#3 judge
Name of judge	Kagan	Posen	Jastrzebski
presence	1	1	1
confidence	1	1	1
attentive	1	1	1
control	1	1	1
respectful	1	1	1
delivery	1	1	1
side bar	1	1	1

4. Rate the following on the 1-5 scale: appropriateness of sentence 1

5. Do you think the experience helped the defendant? Why or why not? Yes.

*Δ clearly got carried away in committing the crimes — the process/formality of AYC served as a reality check.*

AYC CASE EVALUATION Case No. \_\_\_\_\_  
To Be Completed By All Case Participants. Return to Legal Advisor

1. What part of the process did you participate in? clerk \_\_\_\_\_ judge \_\_\_\_\_  
attorney \_\_\_\_\_ volunteer legal advisor 1/ bailiff \_\_\_\_\_ AYC staff \_\_\_\_\_

Rate each of the following in overall performance on a scale of 1-5:  
1 = excellent, 2 = above expectations, 3 = good, 4 = adequate, 5 = poor

2. Prosecution as a team \_\_\_\_\_ Defense as a team \_\_\_\_\_ Judges as a panel \_\_\_\_\_

	Pros. #1	Pros #2	Def. #1	Def. #2
Name of atny	Stuart	Robbie	Ian	Ashley
preparation	2	2	2	2
delivery	1	3	1	2
decorum	1	1	1	1
sensitivity	1	2	1	1
personal responsibility	1	1	1	1
cooperation	1	1	1	1

	Presiding judge	#2 judge	#3 judge
Name of judge	Katie	Anaet	Layne
presence	1	1	2
confidence	2	2	2
attentive	1	1	1
control	1	1	1
respectful	1	1	1
delivery	2	2	1
side bar			

Comments:

*Stuart + Ian gave good argument - placed crime in larger context - Stuart explained how Δ's actions affect people around her - Ian explained how Δ interacted with family, friends & community*

4. Rate the following on the 1-5 scale: appropriateness of sentence \_\_\_\_\_

5. Do you think the experience helped the defendant? Why or why not?

**AYC CASE EVALUATION** Case No. 91-022  
 To Be Completed By All Case Participants. Return to Legal Advisor

1. What part of the process did you participate in? clerk \_\_\_\_\_ judge \_\_\_\_\_  
 attorney \_\_\_\_\_ volunteer legal advisor X bailiff \_\_\_\_\_ AYC staff \_\_\_\_\_

2. Rate each of the following in overall performance on a scale of 1-5:  
 1 = excellent, 2 = above average, 3 = average, 4 = below average, 5 = poor  
 Prosecution as a team 2 Defense as a team 2 Judges as a panel 1

Name of atny	Pros. #1	Pros #2	Def. #1	Def. #2
preparation	<u>Wheeler</u> 3	<u>Roberts</u> 3	<u>Yaeger</u> 1	<u>Wheeler Lanaker</u> 3
delivery	2	2	1	3
decorum			1	
sensitivity			1	3
personal responsibility			1	
cooperation			1	

Name of judge	Presiding judge	#2 judge	#3 judge
presence	<u>Poscy</u> 1	<u>Casey</u> 3	<u>Edwards</u> 2
confidence	1	1	1
attentive	1	2	1
control	1	2	2
respectful	1	2	2
delivery	1	3	2
side bar	1		

*I was very impressed with Ashy Yaeger - excellent advocacy & poisc. & with Judge Poscy - excellent control & handling of case.*

4. Rate the following on the 1-5 scale: appropriateness of sentence 1

5. Do you think the experience helped the defendant? Why or why not?

An excerpt from State of Judiciary  
Given by Chief Justice Warren W. Matthews  
March 5, 1999

The Anchorage Youth Court is very well established. It is something of a national model. It handled about 500 cases last year. Anchorage will be hosting the national youth court conference this spring. The court system does not take credit for the youth court idea or its founding. But we support it in various ways with our employees and our facilities. Most of the other major cities in Alaska also have youth court programs. We intend to give them all the support we can.

ADN March 21 99

### **Youth Court opens son's eyes**

Last summer, I almost lost my son. Not to an accident or drugs or disease — the influence of friends proved a much stronger temptation.

After many phone calls and a little research, a door opened for us. It led to Youth Court, and now, nearly nine months later, my son has returned. We're discovering things about each other we never knew before; I'm no longer the enemy. And that group of friends is a thing of the past. They're still around, but finally my son has learned that no one is worth destroying his image of himself and his connection with his family.

Thank you to all the people who work to keep Youth Court alive and available to our community. As my son's grades and attitude continue to improve, I can only marvel at that door that opened up hope for us.

Please help keep that door open for our youth and their families. Please, support your local Youth Court and House Bill 28, which provides for its funding.

— Candy Sims  
Anchorage

Matt Moon  
1380 Otter Street  
Anchorage, AK 99504-2656

To: THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
From: MATT MOON, BOARD OF DIRECTORS - AYC, INC.  
Date: FEBRUARY 19<sup>TH</sup>, 1999  
Subject: HOUSE BILL #28

*This letter is to provide a personal opinion from Anchorage Youth Court member, Matt Moon, for advocacy of House Bill #28. It only represents the opinion and record of Matt Moon, and not of the Bar Association of Anchorage Youth Court or Anchorage Youth Court, Inc.*

In March of 1989, a group of youths from Anchorage had an idea. This idea seemed to have so much potential that they conferred with adults from the community to receive insight on this idea. And in March of 1989, that idea became a reality, and very unique reality it was, and still is.

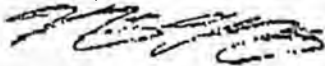
Now that we are closing in on the tenth year of this reality, Anchorage Youth Court has grown, prospered, and has been blessed this past decade. This span of time has been a decade of law education, a decade of providing youth to benefit themselves as well as their municipality, a decade of giving our peers a second chance, and most importantly, a decade of making a difference.

We, as a bar association and a corporation, are nearing this great tenth anniversary. We are on the right track and headed towards more prosperous times for this organization. The bar, the corporation, and the staff members have been working countless hours to make this organization be better than it is. And I thank them and give an infinite amount of gratitude towards them. Like any non-profit organization, we depend on funds to keep growing and to keep helping our community. Like one of life's rules, if something stops growing, it will eventually fall. But I believe with House Bill #28 that through this funding, Anchorage Youth Court, and Youth Courts around the state can keep on growing. House Bill #28 is an investment in towards the rehabilitation of juvenile defendant, an investment towards the community, the state, and most importantly, the young people who gain much self-confidence, many lifelong skills, and a sense of self-respect that will help them to do well in the prime of their lives.

House Bill #28 is an investment that is 100% sure to bring back profit to the whole state.

Thank you and best regards.

Sincerely,



Matt Moon  
Board of Directors, AYC Inc.  
Constitution Committee, Chairman  
Education Committee, Vice-Chairman

To Whom it may concern:

I am in support of the Youth Court program in the Wasilla area. I also feel every community would benefit from such a program.

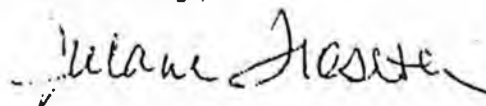
My daughter is now in the program but was first acquainted with the program being on the "wrong" side of the law. I really feel the program works because of the reaction my daughter had. She was scared and learned if not for Youth Court, consequences could and would have been a lot worse. She gladly and quickly finished her sentence. She felt lucky to be given a chance and now knows it's not fun or cool to do something against the law.

She now is going through the shadowing part of the program and is enjoying seeing and learning the whole process.

I feel she has a new respect for authority and the law. She also knows if there were to be another incident, she would not be so lucky.

I hope this program continues because it gives kids a second chance if they happen to goof up in life. Many need only a second chance to realize right from wrong. I also think it is good for those interested in law and gives them insight into it.

Sincerely,



Julane Troseth  
2851 Marianns Pl.  
Wasilla, AK 99654

To Whom This May Concern;

Being in Youth Court has changed my ways and views on society. When I first came into Youth Court it seemed like it was not right for me. I felt uncomfortable. But then the other Youth Court members helped me out and showed me what to do and if I was doing it right. They started making me feel comfortable and welcome and if I had any questions they were more than happy to help me out. To me, Youth Court is like a family reaching out to others. Now I'm a part of that family and I enjoy every moment of it.

What I do in Youth Court reflects on the way I act towards others. I know what it is like to be on the other end and I let people know that it really changed me and that I'm now a part of it. There are people who I know I'll see in there someday and I let them know what can happen to them. Some don't take me seriously and some do.

Thanks to Youth Court, I have become a great speaker. I'm not nervous at all when I get up to speak and I've become confident on what I say. I take Youth Court very seriously and respect that it is highly confidential. My friends are supportive of me. I think from seeing a variety of cases come through it has made me realize that it is a serious problem it has made me more mature on the subject.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Becky Troseth". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Becky Troseth

Dear Representative Croft,  
3-23-99

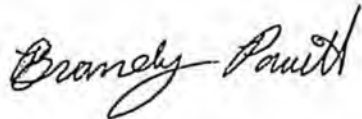
I am a junior at the Juneau Douglas High School and I serve as the Youth Court Coordinator at my school. Students may choose Youth Court instead of suspension.

I am gaining a lot from Youth Court. I've learned office skills, communication skills and organization skills. My job is to help recruit student jurors and attorneys and to coordinate orientations and cases.

I think this is way better than suspension. Youth Court provides actual punishment, unlike suspension which is just a vacation.

I support your bill, HB28, because it would obviously help keep Youth Court going. It's really hard when it's on a volunteer basis. With grant monies, more places and schools could offer this positive alternative.

Sincerely,

Brandy Pavitt 

Youth Court Assistant

Dear Representative Eric Croft,

I joined Anchorage Youth Court in January of 1998 and have been an active member ever since my swearing-in in January. I'm currently holding the position of Secretary of the Anchorage Youth Court Bar Association. From a year long of my membership to Anchorage Youth Court, I have gained many qualities that will help me throughout my future. One of the major attributes that I have gained from Anchorage Youth Court is confidence. I was always nervous to stand in front of the class and present. I would anxiously wait for my turn with little butterflies in my stomach. And these symptoms made me worry about my future career plan. I really want to be a lawyer and defend and represent the just side. But in order to accomplish that, I would have to prove my case in front of people. But with my fear of public speaking, that goal just seemed like it was getting farther and farther away from me. I wanted to join Anchorage Youth Court because I was interested in law. And when I did, I was worried about taking a case. I talk too fast and I talk softly. I didn't want to embarrass myself in front of people I didn't even know. Then with cases, I earned confidence. Our legal advisors would always encourage me by not criticizing but rather pointing out the better part of my presentation. With immense support like those, students can't help but mature in their skills to speak. All I needed was confidence and I gained that from Anchorage Youth Court.

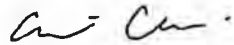
I was also chosen to be the lead prosecutor for trial. Trials are scarce in Anchorage YOUTH Court. I was very pleased. Trials gave me the opportunity to learn about court firsthand. I had to experience in order to learn. It was so much more stimulating than learning facts from the book. I learned to keep my composure in the court room. How to be professional. How not to be intimidated. I learned to prepare for the trial. I had to travel to Eagle River to investigate as the prosecution has the burden of proof. I learned to make opening and closing arguments. I learned to pick out the jurors that I wanted. It was such an exhilarating experience. That one month that I had involved with the trial was the most memorable part of my summer.

I learned many skills, practical skills and gained legal knowledge from Youth Court that many others are not offered in other states. My experience with Youth Court has been far more than anything I ever thought of when I joined last January. I wouldn't even be involved with half the things that I am right now if it wasn't for Youth Court.

AS my current position as the Secretary of the Bar Association, I learn how the executive Board operates and as my position as Board of Director, I learn how a board for nonprofit organization has to operate. There are so many options that Anchorage Youth Court offers. Those who are into managing and with executive skills has many positions to be fulfilled. Those only interested in legal perspective of Youth Court can concentrate only on the legal perspective.

Again, I would like to stress that every member of Youth Court gets out as much as they put into it.

Sincerely,



Erin Choi

Anchorage Youth Court Bar Secretary

Date: Thu, 04 Feb 1999 12:15:03 +0100  
From: posey in alaska <poseyak@alaska.net>  
Reply-To: poseyak@alaska.net  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
To: ayc@micronet.net  
Subject: Support letter- Liz

Elizabeth Posey  
2311 Canary Court  
Anchorage, AK 99515  
(907) 243-6973  
poseyak@alaska.net  
February 4, 1999

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Elizabeth Posey and I am writing this letter in support of House Bill No. 28. This bill will help diversify Anchorage Youth Courts, operating funds. This is important in establishing a foundation to ensure Anchorage Youth Court,s continued success and existence. I have benefited from Anchorage Youth Court in a wide variety of invaluable ways. After joining in eighth grade I have served as both a prosecuting and a defense attorney, Associate Judge, Administrative Judge and my current position as Chief Judge for the second year. In addition to serving in these court positions I have also been involved in the telephone, publicity and ethics committees. My involvement in all these positions has been an overwhelmingly positive experience for me. I have gained and improved on invaluable people, organizational, leadership and public speaking skills. My position as Chief Judge has allowed me to expand my public speaking skills even more and has provided me with numerous contacts throughout the community. My involvement has also helped me develop a measure of respect with my peers and adults around the community. Anchorage Youth Court has done a lot for me, but it has also allowed me to do a lot for my community. My involvement has allowed me to have a direct impact on juvenile crime in addition to slowly changing negative perceptions of Alaska,s youth.

My hope is that this letter will demonstrate what Anchorage Youth Court has done to enrich the lives of Alaska,s youth as well as the community. Please take both sides of the coin into consideration when deciding your position on this bill.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Posey

## Bryan Clark

644 E. 3rd Ave.  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
(907) 274-7494

February 4, 1999

Representative Eric Croft

Dear Rep. Croft,

I am writing in enthusiastic support of HB 28, dealing with funding to Youth Courts in the State of Alaska.

I first got involved with Anchorage Youth Court at its inception in 1988. I was in the seventh grade at the time, and over my years in junior high and high school I served as an attorney, clerk, bailiff, judge, and AYC Bar President; moreover, I served as a frequent committee member and parliamentarian. In those years, as AYC was finding its feet, I also served as a salesman and pitch maker and learned what it took to make an organization tick.

After graduating from high school, I went to college out of state, and I've returned to Alaska to make a life here. In this time I've come to realize that the lessons I learned in AYC were some of the most valuable in life. AYC entrusted me with the defense of my fellow citizens and my community. AYC relied on me to advocate its cause to the public. Under this responsibility, I became responsible. With this trust, I became trustworthy. And when I looked back on the job I'd done, I was proud of who I was.

AYC has always been asked for facts and figures about its effects on defendants, and these facts are impressive. It gives a certain trust to them also, to help them take responsibility for their actions without condescending or condemning. But I feel that attention should also be given to the successes of our members. AYC gives its members a head start on their future by building their resumes and college applications, and by giving them experience in research and the law, parliamentary procedures, public speaking and debate. Much more than this, however, AYC's members learn valuable lessons about values and self-confidence. They learn that they can participate in the system instead of resenting it, and that their efforts and example can make a real difference in their communities. AYC builds good citizens and leaders.

I will always be indebted to AYC for believing in me and helping me become who I am today. Alaska's Youth Courts deserve all of the support we can offer to continue to set the standard for the nation in juvenile justice and the education of our young people.

Sincerely,



Bryan Clark

Stuart Bannan  
2130 Atwood Drive  
Anchorage, AK 99517  
bannan@alaska.net  
28 January 1999

Dear Representative Berkowitz:

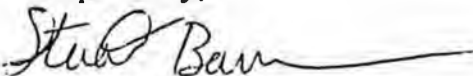
I am writing in support of House Bill 28. I believe that this bill will go a long way to help youth courts continue the service they provide to their communities throughout Alaska.

My own youth court, Anchorage Youth Court, has had a considerable influence on me in the three years I have been involved. My own personal education of both the legal system and the political system has been greatly enhanced. This is due entirely to the fact that Anchorage Youth Court (AYC) has offered me first hand experience; in youth courts students do not learn by just reading about something, they do it. I never would have had the knowledge of the law I have today if I had not taken the eight week training required for AYC membership, or had not been a judge on cases where I had to weigh the evidence and come to a fair decision. Similarly with my education of the political system I have benefited from first hand experience. Through youth court I have given presentations in front of the Anchorage Assembly, gone to meetings as wide ranging as the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce and the United Way Board, and generally got to know the people who are making the decisions in our community. I feel all of these experiences have made me more aware of and more respectful of how truly great and unique our American legal and political systems are.

Of course the main goal of all youth courts is to help the young people who come through because they have committed a crime. Youth courts have the philosophy that teens who commit minor crimes such as shoplifting should not only receive consequences holding them responsible for their actions but also receive education to change their behavior. In the setting of youth court, young people are telling the young people who commit crimes that we do not condone their actions, and in fact we really do not appreciate it because actions like theirs hurt all young people by bringing about negative stereotypes. It is our belief (and we have the statistics to back this up) that young people are more apt to listen to their peers and take what they have been told to heart. For me the strongest proof of youth courts' effectiveness is when I see someone who had been sent to AYC as a defendant join the AYC Bar and begin advocating the law.

I respectfully ask you to take these points into consideration as you vote. Youth courts serve a very important role throughout the state, and HB 28 is a fair and just way to help ensure that youth courts can continue their service. Please vote to accept House Bill 28.

Respectfully,



Stuart Bannan,  
Vice-President, Anchorage Youth Court Bar Association  
Presiding Judge, Anchorage Youth Court

cc: Rep. Eric Croft

**Subject: Alaskan youth courts**

**Date: Fri, 05 Feb 1999 13:03:19 -0800 (PST)**

**From: Ossiander Lia A <ossianla@plu.edu>**

**To: Representative\_Eric\_Croft@legis.state.AK.US**

Dear Rep. Croft,

I was contacted by Linda Johnson about the Alaskan youth courts bill you are sponsoring, and I was pretty pleased to hear that an effort is being made to build up youth courts at home. I'm a student at Pacific Lutheran University this year, and was a member of Anchorage Youth Court during high school, so I wrote a brief letter of support for youth courts. I hope you can pass it along to some of your colleagues so they can hear more about the great job youth courts are doing. If you would like me to mail you a hard copy or attach the letter in another file to an email, please let me know. I check my email at ossianla@plu.edu frequently, so I can get back to you quickly.

Thanks!

Lia

Here's the letter:

Dear Legislator:

I am writing in enthusiastic support of Representative Crofts proposal to strengthen Alaskas youth courts by establishing a sustainable source of funding for the founding of new courts and operation of existing ones. As a freshman at Pacific Lutheran University who served in Anchorage Youth Court for five years as an attorney and a Presiding Judge, I regard myself as very lucky to have had the opportunity to participate in this excellent program that benefits the youth court members, the defendants, and the community.

My responsibility in Anchorage Youth Court to act as a fair judge of my peers earned me respect in the eyes of adults who interact with young offenders. My role in the process of rehabilitation was taken seriously, because I was not only a teen myself, but I was making a difference to decrease youth crime and help young offenders. To participate directly in a problem so closely associated with teenagers gave me credibility instead of being dismissed as a member of the age group that is part of the problem. The best way to change the problem of teen crime is to make teens part of the solution.

Youth courts integrate young people into the solution for youth crime in the best possible forum: as direct participants in a courtroom. I have seen defendants visibly impacted by the experience of standing before a panel of judges or in front of a jury to be held accountable for their actions. The immediate, tangible consequence of their crime is meaningful because it is examined carefully and critically by their defense counsel, prosecutors, and the judges. The defendants actions and particular circumstances are questioned in the open courtroom, and the resulting sentence results from the considerations each individual case merits when held against a uniform, high standard. The defendant recognizes his or her actions led directly to their punishment.

As the Alaskan legislature explores strategies to combat youth criminal activity, youth courts should be viewed as one of the most effective ways to dissuade early young offenders upon their first offense. The attention paid to each case and the credibility of a judgment issued by peers is a very powerful motivator. Our state should not pass up an opportunity to allow young people to be involved in a community program like youth court. I am grateful for my opportunity to serve in a youth court and I hope many more Alaskans have this chance in the future. Please contact me if you have any questions about my Anchorage Youth Court experiences. I will happily discuss this wonderful program.

Alaskan youth courts

Sincerely,  
Lia Ossiander  
ossianla@plu.edu

STATE OFFICE  
**ALASKA PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 240106 Anchorage, Alaska 99524-0106 Phone (907) 277-0515 Fax (907) 272-5355



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Representative Croft  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capital  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

February 19, 1999

Dear Representative Croft,

At a recent meeting of the APOA Board of Directors, we unanimously agreed to endorse HB 28 with the stipulation that no money be taken from Alaska Police Standards Council law enforcement training.

Please contact us if there is anything we can do to assist you with this bill as it proceeds through the legislative process. You may contact us at the APOA office in Anchorage at 277-0515.

Thank you for sponsoring this legislation.

Sincerely,

John Charbonneau  
State President  
Alaska Peace Officers Association



## PARENT AYC EVALUATION

optional student's name \_\_\_\_\_

give to bailiff or front desk, or  
leave in evaluation envelope, or  
mail or fax (272-0491).  
Thank you for your comments.

1. What was your overall impression of how the case was handled?  
Very Professional... Promot and very helpful with information.
2. What suggestions do you have for improvement?  
None really... since I don't have anything to compare AYC to.
3. What do you think went especially well?  
She follow up, on the kids! And the fact that they took there jobs as Magistrate lawyers, bailiff, and prosecutors very seriously.
4. Do you think the experience helped the defendant? Why or why not?  
Yes. Because now he sees why, what he did was wrong and how it affected other people. And being responsible for your own actions. Oh and how everyone is responsible for their own debts.



## PARENT AYC EVALUATION

give to bailiff or front desk, or  
leave in case manager's box, or  
mail or fax (272-0491).  
Thank you for your comments.

1. What was your overall impression of how the case was handled?

8-20  
269  
cm

I have served on various juries and was quite impressed with everyone's performance. It was very orderly and done in a serious manner.

2. What suggestions do you have for improvement?

-nothing-

3. What do you think went especially well?

The whole thing went very smooth --

4. Do you think the experience helped the defendant? Why or why not?

Yes - just being in a formal courtroom is an experience in itself. One I don't think she'll want to experience in the same capacity. Thank you -



## PARENT/GUARDIAN CASE EVALUATION

RETURN TO AYC OFFICE

*1/1  
CMM*

1. What was your overall impression of how the case was handled?

VERY WELL AND IN A PROFESSIONAL MANNER  
GIVING SERIOUS ATTENTION TO THE ISSUE AND  
THE PEOPLE INVOLVED (BOTH DEFENDANT AND VICTIM)

2. What suggestions do you have for improvement?

~~1~~ KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

3. What do you think went especially well?

THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE ISSUE AND THE COURT  
SYSTEM & PROCESS WAS IMPRESSIVE

4. Do you think the experience helped the defendant? Why or why not? *BOTH ATTORNEYS IDEAS WERE PRESENTED WELL  
(ALL THE FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES WERE AIDED WELL)*

~~1~~ BEING CONFRONTED BY THE LAW  
THROUGH THE GROUP OF PEERS  
SHOULD LEAVE A MEMORABLE IMPRESSION  
I THINK  
IT WILL



## PARENT AYC EVALUATION

give to bailiff or front desk, or  
leave in case manager's box, or,  
mail or fax (272-0491).  
Thank you for your comments.

- dm  
8-25*
1. What was your overall impression of how the case was handled?  
*Stephanie's case was handled promptly and with a degree of seriousness, it was not a "Kangaroo court".*
  2. What suggestions do you have for improvement?  
*None, at this time.*
  3. What do you think went especially well?  
*The fact that our child was prepared and receptive to the whole experience.*
  4. Do you think the experience helped the defendant? Why or why not?  
*Yes, the experience helped to re-enforce the reality and the consequences of her actions.*



# PARENT AYC EVALUATION

## RECEIVED

NOV 10 1998

Give to bailiff or front desk, or  
leave in case manager's box, or  
mail or fax (272-0491).  
Thank you for your comments.

1. What was your overall impression of how the case was handled?

The case was handled in a very professional manner. I felt the attorney was very knowledgeable and helped to make the defendant feel at ease.

2. What suggestions do you have for improvement?

nothing

3. What do you think went especially well?

I thought the whole process went very well. I'm quite impressed with this program.

4. Do you think the experience helped the defendant? Why or why not?

Yes, I feel it helped him to understand the judicial system in a much more informal setting.



## PARENT EVALUATION

(optional) student's name \_\_\_\_\_  
date 2-3-99

please hand this to the bailiff or front desk, or  
leave in evaluation envelope, or  
mail or fax (272-0491).

Thank you for your comments.

1. What was your overall impression of how your student's case was handled?

It was well thought out and researched  
by both attorneys.

2. What suggestions do you have for improvement?

3. What do you think went especially well?

The banter by both prosecuting and  
defending attorneys when the charges  
were being discussed. They knew the law  
and the charges & were each doing their  
very best to make sure their side prevailed.

4. Do you think the experience helped your student? Why or why not?

Yes I do. It was very sobering as to  
how a real judge & attorneys would  
treat you in a real ~~classroom~~ courtroom.  
I think she knows she wouldn't want to  
go through the real thing