



News Release

FROM: Chambers of the Chief Judge
19th Judicial Circuit
Lake County
Waukegan, Illinois 60085-4359

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Waukegan, Illinois

COURSE ALTERNATIVE FOR JUVENILE OFFENDERS

On June 1, 2011, a new alternative will be available in the 19th Judicial Circuit Court for youthful offenders charged with ordinance violations. In coordination with the 19th Judicial Circuit Court, the College of Lake County's Judicial Services has developed the Behavioral Choices Module (BCM).

Traditionally, these youthful offenders only receive a citation, appear in court, pay a fine and may be given community service. Not understanding the consequences of their actions, these same youth often return with additional or more serious charges in the future. The one day four-hour course will teach strategies to these youthful offenders to look at their behavior and how to make better choices for their future.

The course is designed for youth ages 13 to 17 charged with ordinance violations that may include, for example, curfew and truancy, disorderly conduct or fighting, property damage, retail theft, or resisting a peace officer. Classes will be offered at the College of Lake County Grayslake and Waukegan campuses on Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to noon.

Parents and guardians are required to attend the first session, which provides an overview of the restorative justice principles and the goals of the course. The discussion will address components of restorative justice including who has been affected by youths' behavior, how they are accountable for their actions and what strategies can they use to make better choices for the future. Students who complete the course will receive a certificate of completion to return to the court signifying successful compliance.

The cost of the course is \$40.00. Registration is accepted by phone 847.543.2185, fax 847.543.2188, or in person at the College of Lake County Judicial Services office at 111 N. Genesee Street, Waukegan. For more information please contact Judicial Services at 847.543.2185 or visit our website at wpdi.clcillinois.edu/judicial.

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