

INFORM, ENGAGE, & EMPOWER OUR COMMUNITY

PROGRAM MISSION



At the Magistrate Court of Fulton County, we value serving our youth and strive to advance our mission of informing, engaging, and empowering our community.



PROGRAM HOURS



Second Mondays
9 AM to 1:30 PM



Each month, we invite students from across Fulton County to get an inside look at the Magistrate Court – from observing real court proceedings to sharing lunch with judges, attorneys, and Court staff. It's a unique opportunity to see justice in action and understand the inner workings of the court system.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

This FREE program series is open to 6th to 12th grade students of:

- Fulton County Schools
- Atlanta Public Schools
- Youth-serving organizations



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IN-PERSON

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WEBSITE

www.MagistrateFulton.Org



Thank You!

CHIEF MAGISTRATE JUDGE
Cassandra Kirk



MAGISTRATE COURT OF FULTON COUNTY & CHIEF MAGISTRATE JUDGE CASSANDRA KIRK

PRESENT

BANG THE GAVEL



A COURT DAY LUNCH & LEARN SERIES

PROGRAM GOAL

To expose and inspire Fulton County middle and high school students from the surrounding community to pursue the judiciary as a career. Student attendees can expect to experience a power packed day from start to finish!



Join the Magistrate Court of Fulton County and Chief Magistrate Judge Cassandra Kirk for an exciting youth development program called "Bang the Gavel: A Court Day Lunch & Learn Series."

Don't miss out on this opportunity!

OVERVIEW



We will begin the day with a warm welcome from Chief Magistrate Judge Cassandra Kirk and our team.

After that, students will have the opportunity to view both civil and criminal proceedings in real time and in real courtrooms!

Students will then participate in a mock trial, before a real judge in a real courtroom, providing an authentic courtroom experience. Students will take on roles such as attorneys, witnesses, defendant, bailiff, and members of the jury.

We will prepare the students to present opening statements; review facts and evidence; prepare, examine, and cross-examine the defendant and witnesses; prepare testimony; and deliver closing statements. The jury will then deliberate and give a verdict!



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We conclude the day with lunch, provided by Dr. Rashad Richey, and a roundtable discussion featuring several of our sitting Magistrate Court Judges. During this session, students will share their experiences, ask questions, and engage in a creative activity. Additionally, an award is presented to the best student attorney, who may then participate in a mock press conference, answering questions from mock reporters—both students and judges!

HOW DO I ATTEND?



Would your school or organization like to join the Magistrate Court of Fulton County for Bang the Gavel: A Court Day Lunch and Learn Series? **Contact us for more information!**

Disclaimer: The information in this pamphlet is not legal advice. It is intended to give a general description of the services available through the Bang the Gavel program. Consult an attorney for legal advice about your case.

MOCK TRIAL ROLES



Bailiff – the person who helps keep order in the courtroom. They call the court to order and take care of the jury.

Case Summary – a short explanation of what the case is about, who is involved, and what each side believes happened.

Closing Statement – the last thing the lawyers say to remind the jury of the important facts and ask them to decide in their favor.

Defendant – the person who is accused of doing something wrong in court.

Defense Attorney – the lawyer who helps and defends the person accused (the Defendant). They try to show the defendant is not guilty.

Evidence – proof used in court, like documents, photos, videos, or objects that help show what happened.

Judge – the person in charge of the courtroom. The judge makes sure everyone follows the rules and helps make fair decisions.

Jurors – a group of community people who listen to the case and decide whether the State has carried its burden of proof on the Defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

Jury Foreperson – the leader of the jury. They help guide the jury's discussions and share the final decision with the Court.

Opening Statement – the first thing the lawyers say to explain what the case is about and what they will try to prove to the jury.

Prosecuting Attorney – the lawyer who tries to prove the defendant did something wrong. They represent the State of GA.

Testimony – what a witness says in court when they answer questions about what they saw, heard, or know.

Victim – the person who was hurt, harmed, or had something happen to them.

Witnesses – people who tell what they saw or know to help the State or the Defense Attorney prove or defend the case.