

FACE OF JUSTICE PROGRAM



The Face of Justice program allows high school students to network with legal professionals. The program, based on a National Association of Women Judges program, is organized by the Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee of the State Bar of Michigan.

The program's primary focus is a "jet-mentoring" component designed to give high school students the opportunity to interact with a variety of legal professionals. Students get a few minutes with the attorneys, judges, and law enforcement officials in attendance to ask questions, hear about why people choose particular paths, and the preparation needed to pursue a career in the law.

In the past, we worked with the Michigan Supreme Court Hall of Justice to offer tours of the courtrooms and interactive learning center. We also worked with the Southeast Michigan Urban League and event sponsor Comcast to transport Detroit-area students to the 36th District Court for tours of its courtrooms while in session and then to Wayne County Community College to learn about higher education opportunities. Collaborations with different organizations and groups as sponsors and help from legal professionals providing mentoring have been the key to the program's success.

Past program information can be found online at www.michbar.org/diversity/face-of-justice

Sample agendas and more information on the program can be found on the next page. If you are interested in learning more about bringing the Face of Justice program to your students or school or if you wish to sponsor a program in your community, contact Gregory Conyers, gconyers@michbar.org or Michelle Erskine, merskine@michbar.org.

Sincerely,

Gregory Conyers
Diversity Director, State Bar of Michigan

Hon. Michelle M. Rick
29th Circuit Court

Hon. Cynthia D. Stephens
Michigan Court of Appeals

FOLLOWUP REVEALED THAT 48% OF STUDENTS ARE CONSIDERING THE JUSTICE SYSTEM OR LEGAL PROFESSION AS CAREER OPTIONS SINCE PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM.

PARTICIPANTS SAID THEIR EXPERIENCE WAS GOOD TO EXCELLENT OVERALL



DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
of
WOMEN JUDGES

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What We Can Offer

The Face of Justice is an award-winning program cosponsored by The National Association of Women Judges. We offer resources and connections from a volunteer committee of well-rounded legal professionals. Opportunities include:

- Visiting the Michigan Supreme Court Hall of Justice in Lansing or local courts for tours.
- Having us recruit legal professionals and law students as mentors for jet mentoring so students can ask questions and network.
- Providing half- or full-day programs based on students' schedules and availability. We organize the day, and handle administrative and event support.
- Planning to work opportunities into lesson plans.
- We provide lunch!

How Can You Help?

- We need to connect to an audience of students wanting to learn about the justice system and the legal profession. We can work with groups of many sizes.
- If transportation is needed, we look for sponsorship from the community or organizations that support our program's aims and goals.

"IT WAS A GOOD EXPERIENCE FOR ME, ESPECIALLY SINCE I AM THINKING ABOUT GOING INTO LAW FOR MY FUTURE CAREER."

"I THINK IT WAS VERY GOOD TO HAVE SINCE WE LEARNED ABOUT AND GOT CONNECTIONS WITH PEOPLE IN THE LAW; WE WERE ABLE TO SEE HOW THE COURTS WORK."

Sample Agendas

Full Day Detroit Agenda

- 8:45 a.m. Transportation to 36th District Court
- 9:00 a.m. Court security checkin
- 9:30 a.m. Introductions
- 9:45 a.m. Courtroom tours and discussions
- 11:15 a.m. Transportation to afternoon venue
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch, casual networking
- 12:30 p.m. Jet mentoring
- 2:30 p.m. WCCC 3+1 Program Introduced
- 3:00 p.m. Closing remarks
- 3:30 p.m. Transportation to Dismissal Location

Half Day Lansing Agenda

- 9:00 a.m. Introductions at the Hall of Justice
- 9:30 a.m. Panel presentation with judges, attorneys, and law enforcement officials
- 10:00 a.m. Track 1: Learning Center and courtroom tours
Track 2: Jet mentoring
- 12:00 p.m. Final remarks, lunch, and networking

Find more information on past programs at www.michbar.org/diversity/face-of-justice

Start the discussion now to bring the Face of Justice program to students near you!

Contact gconyers@michbar.org, merskine@michbar.org or call 517-346-6316



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