



**City of Wylie**  
**Public Information Office**  

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**PRESS RELEASE**

## **Wylie Teen Court Program Seeking Student Attorneys**

**Wylie, TX, Feb. 11, 2020** – Wylie’s Teen Court provides students the opportunity to learn more about the criminal justice system and gain valuable court experience while serving as teen jurors, prosecuting attorneys or defense attorneys. The program, authorized by the Texas State Legislature, enables teens who have pled guilty or no contest to Class C misdemeanors to opt to have their case tried by peers in Teen Court.

Teen Court attorneys will present the state’s or defendant’s case to a municipal judge and teen jurors, with opening statements, direct examination, cross examination and closing arguments, and then recommend appropriate sentences to the jury.

Wylie Teen Court is currently seeking volunteers to serve as Teen Court attorneys for the 2020-’21 school year. Interested students must apply by March 16. Applications are available online at [wylietexas.gov/departments/municipal\\_court](http://wylietexas.gov/departments/municipal_court) and can be submitted by email, mail, or in person.

Teen Court meets the second Wednesday of every month from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Participants must be between the ages of 15 and 18, enrolled in school, available during those times, and willing to commit for one school year. Students selected from the applicant pool will attend training Saturday, May 2, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Wylie Recreation Center, 300 Country Club Rd. Bldg. 200, Wylie, Texas.

In addition to learning about criminal justice, Teen Court benefits include community involvement, development of critical thinking skills, teamwork experience, public speaking experience, and college experience.

For more information, contact Juvenile Case Manager Alex Ocanas at 972-429-8085 or [alex.ocanas@wylietexas.gov](mailto:alex.ocanas@wylietexas.gov). Information is also available at [wylietexas.gov/departments/municipal\\_court](http://wylietexas.gov/departments/municipal_court).

Media Contact: Craig Kelly, PIO  
972-516-6016 [craig.kelly@wylietexas.gov](mailto:craig.kelly@wylietexas.gov)

About Wylie – Incorporated in 1887, the City of Wylie is located just 24 miles from downtown Dallas in Collin, Dallas and Rockwall counties. Possessing an outstanding school district, a low crime rate, an ISO #1 rating and an expanding business climate, Wylie (population almost 50,000) is one of the fastest-growing communities in the state of Texas with a 220-percent increase since 2000. MONEY Magazine named Wylie the 20<sup>th</sup> Best Place to Live in the Country in 2017 and 25<sup>th</sup> in 2015. Financial website NerdWallet named Wylie the Best Small City for Young Families in August 2016. Realtor.com named Wylie the second hottest suburb in the country in February 2017. SafeWise named Wylie the ninth safest city in Texas in 2017.