

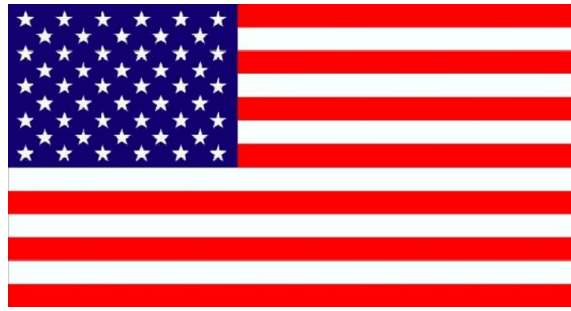
## What is the Juvenile Restorative Justice Initiative

JRJI is a pre-arrest diversion program which allows law enforcement to hold juvenile misdemeanants accountable for their crimes without involving the state attorneys office or Circuit court pursuant to Florida State Statute 985.125.

- Referral to JRJI is a pre-arrest that could turn into an arrest
- Law Enforcement diversion to provide youth under 18 years old a one time opportunity to correct their behavior and get back on track toward successful participation in the community

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JRJI was First Place Webber – Seavey Award winner in 2004. This is an international award for the Chief of Police of an agency that has developed and maintained an innovated, problem-solving project that improves the quality of life in the community.



**TEAM**  
**PORT ST. LUCIE**

A GROUP OF PEOPLE DEDICATED TO ONE THING:  
MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER  
PLACE, STARTING WITH PORT ST. LUCIE

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COURAGE,  
KNOWLEDGE,  
INTEGRITY

CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE  
POLICE DEPARTMENT



JUVENILE RESTORATIVE  
JUSTICE INITIATIVE

WORKING TOGETHER FOR  
A SAFER COMMUNITY

# JUVENILE RESTORATIVE JUSTICE INITIATIVE

## YOUTH COURT

**WHERE:** Port St. Lucie City Hall

**WHEN:** Last Tuesday of each month at 3:45 p.m.

## WHAT TAKES PLACE

- Officers send pre-arrest referral to JRJI.
- Youth who volunteer handle real cases of youthful offenders.
- Juvenile offender reports to Police Department.
- Youth attorneys make opening & closing statements.
- Youth attorneys question & cross examine witnesses.
- Volunteer jurors assign sanctions to help offenders correct the problem & make up to community while avoiding a life long criminal record.
- 50% of referrals are sent to Youth Court for intervention.
- Youth Court volunteers are 12 to 17 years of age.

## PEER REVIEW

**WHERE:** Port St. Lucie Police Department

**WHEN:** 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at 3:45 p.m.

## WHAT TAKES PLACE

- Officers send pre-arrest referral to JRJI.
- Panel of 3 to 9 youth handle real cases of youthful offenders.
- Juvenile offender reports to Police Department.
- Panel interviews offender regarding their crime & their daily choices
- Panel discusses and assigns sanctions to assist offenders in correcting their attitude and behavior for successful position within the community.

### SAMPLE SANCTIONS

Essays / Book Reports  
Apology Letter  
Community Service  
Jury Duty  
Counseling  
Probation with School Resource Officer

## BENEFITS OF BEING A VOLUNTEER

1. Volunteer hours required for graduation.
2. Volunteer hours for scholarships.
3. Volunteer hours for college admission.
4. Practice public speaking.
5. Add to resume for job search.
6. Learn Florida State Statutes.
7. Explore careers in the courtroom.
8. Meet others interested in legal careers.
9. Mentor and guide troubled youth to avoid further criminal activity.

## WANT MORE INFORMATION??

### Contact:

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