



Criminal Justice Class

Marcia Gecht

Overview



- Primary class focus on the Penal Code, Child Health and Welfare Code, and the Education Code.
- A look at the rights of individuals and the need to maintain public order.



Santa Monica Police Department



- Prevention Component
- The SMPD personnel get to know students and their individual stories.
- The students get to know SMPD officers and the uniform becomes a friendly presence.

The Class



- Explore key elements of the justice system, including:
 - The Courts
 - Police
 - Corrections

- All students will develop critical thinking skills that are necessary to be responsible participants in a democratic nation.

Discussion Topics



- Discussion of current issues:
 - Bullying
 - Cyberbullying
 - Sexting
 - Search & Seizure
 - Supreme Court Case Studies

Class Guest Speakers – once a week

- City Attorney – once a semester
- Police Chief – once a semester
- SMPD Captains
- SMPD Deputy Chief
- SMPD Lieutenants
- SMPD Sergeants
- SMPD School Resource Officers
- LA County Probation
- UCLA Law School Student (once a week x 12)



Class Guest Speakers



Never too late

BY MELODY HANATANI Daily Press Staff Writer

It didn't take long for Joe Aleman to size up the students bent on the same destructive path he was on before getting sent to prison.

Aleman walked into a criminal justice class at Olympic High school on Monday morning, surveying the room and the students who sat chatting and snickering at their desks while they waited for the former gang member to tell his life story.

The first thing that came out of his mouth after briefly introducing himself - a gang member-turned community

School Guest Speakers 2009 - 2010



- Sept 15: Constitution Day Assembly, **Marsha Moutrie**, Santa Monica City Attorney
- Sept 22: **Terry White**, Chief Deputy City Attorney
- Oct 12: Careers Class/John Howard, electrician
- Nov 16: Health Class/Rape Treatment Center
- Nov 18: **Alonzo Hill**, FBI Supervisor
- Nov 20: Gib Jaffe, film editor
- Dec 4: Terry McCarthy, CBS news correspondent
- Dec 7: **R. Vandersande/S. West**, Salon Cristophe
- Dec 9: SMPD – Driving Under the Influence
- Feb 3: Guitar Class/Sergio Gonzales
- Feb 9: Careers Class/Le Cordon Bleu Chef
- Feb 20: Drums Class/Kevin Picard, American Idol
- Feb 22: Black History Assembly/Dr. Terrance Roberts, Little Rock Nine
- Mar 25: Daniel Cano, author & Santa Monica College professor
- Apr 14: Guitar Class/Scott Crago, the Eagles
- Apr 15: Anna Cummins & Marcus Ericson, Algalita Marine Research
- Apr 28: Josh Scherr, video game design
- Jun 2: Paul Haber, short film maker
- Jun 4: TELA Domestic Violence

- *In the eyes of the law, ignorance is not an excuse.*



Marcia Gecht

Olympic High School
Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District

310/392-2494 x66-132
mgecht@smmusd.org