

The Law-Related Education Academy is sponsored by the Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education with funding made possible by the Arizona Department of Education School Safety Program.

“Respect for Authority” Academy
(Middle/High School)
Participant Agenda

Objectives:

- Educate students on why laws and rules exist
- Understand rights and responsibilities when interacting with people in authority positions
- Provide strategies to deescalate emotionally charged situations

September 27, 2023

8:30-9:00 AM

Check-In

Participants will sign-in, enjoy light breakfast and play iCivics games

9:00 AM

Welcome, Introductions, & Housekeeping

Introduction of academy faculty and staff. Overview of academy objectives and housekeeping.

Facilitators: SRO: Cale Thompson and Senior Instructional Specialist: Diana Strouth & Instruction Specialist: Erika Sarmiento

Academy Expectations Icebreaker

Participants will discuss expectations for the academy.

L1 Purpose of Rules and Laws

- The students will learn the purpose of rules and laws.
- The students will understand that those in authority are responsible for enforcing rules and laws.
- The students will create laws for a mock city.

Protective Factor Developed: Decision making skills

Break

L2 Roles of Authority

- Students will understand the roles and responsibilities of those in authority.
- Students will be informed of some rules and laws that help keep them safe.
- Students will look for things they have in common with school staff.

Protective Factor Developed: Connection and commitment to school

L3 Communicating with Law Enforcement

- Students will consider different reasons for interacting with police.
- Students will understand their civic responsibility to communicate successfully with police.
- Students will develop strategies to respond effectively when questioned by police officers.

Protective Factor Developed: Feelings of efficacy

12:05-12:55

Lunch

Energizer:

L4 Healthy Communications

- Students will be able to know what goals should be addressed when communicating effectively.
- Students will understand the importance of non-verbal cues when communicating.
- Students will develop strategies to have healthy communications during conflict.

Protective Factor Developed: Connection/Commitment to school

Break

L5 Safety Concerns

- Students will examine the most common risk factors associated with their age group.
- Students will review how rules and laws established by those in authority help keep them safe.
- Students will have an opportunity to show appreciation for those in authority who help keep them safe.

Protective Factor Developed: Connection/Commitment to school

L6 Traffic Stops

- Students will understand the benefits of communicating successfully with police.
- Students will develop strategies to respond effectively when questioned by police officers.

Protective Factor Developed: Critical reasoning skills

4:15-4:30

Wrap Up

Participants will review the training expectations and submit evaluations.

This academy is approved by the Arizona Department of Education and meets the requirements of the School Safety Program: schoolsafety.socialwellness@azed.gov

Faculty

Diana Strouth

Senior Instruction Specialist

Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education

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Diana Lee Strouth is the Senior Instruction Specialist with the Arizona Foundation for Legal Services and Education. She works with School Safety Program school resource officers, school probation officers and teachers with effective implementation of law-related education through training, onsite technical assistance, and support. Diana has 10 years' experience with the Foundation. Prior to her position at the Foundation, Diana taught for 20 years in the 6-8 classrooms. She received her BA Ed from the University of Arizona. She is also currently a Teacher Consultant for the Arizona Geographic Alliance and board member on the Arizona Council for the Social Studies.

Cale Thompson

School Resource Officer

R. Pete Woodard Jr. High School

cthompson@yuma.org

Cale Thompson has been an officer with the Yuma Police Department since 2013. He spent three years as a patrol officer, six years as a detective, and is ready to begin his second year as a school resource officer. As a school resource officer, he has found joy in teaching, mentoring, and befriending the students at R. Pete Woodard Jr High School. He is active in the community during breaks from school by taking part in a teen academy.

His goal as a resource officer is to have engaging interaction with students in and out of the classroom. Not only keeping the school safe and assisting staff with school safety procedures, but he also strives to be a positive role model for the students on campus.

Although he enjoys his role as a resource officer, he loves to spend on the golf course, on the Colorado River, and with his wife and four children.

Erika Sarmiento

Instruction Specialist

Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education

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Erika Sarmiento is an Instructional Specialist with the Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education. She works with school resource officers, juvenile probation officers, and teachers. Erika has classroom experience from working with students in pre-K, grades 1-4, and grades 10-12. She received her bachelor's degree in Multilingual-Multi-Cultural Education with a minor in Spanish from Arizona State University. She enjoys spending time with her daughters and husband.
