Law & Criminal Justice Leadership Academy

Jefferson’s magnet programs are building the leaders of tomorrow today, through a career focused, Liberal Arts curriculum. Students learn leadership skills, while immersing themselves into the curriculum. They will have the opportunity to recognize others while bringing out the best in themselves. They will analyze different leadership styles to develop their own method of leadership and have the ability to showcase their skills throughout their four years at Jefferson.

The Law & Criminal Justice Academy program at Jefferson High School provides an opportunity for students to choose a Law or Criminal Justice Focus within their academy. Students will have an opportunity to study constitutional law, court procedures, crime scene investigation, forensic science, international law, criminal law, techniques involved in fingerprinting and photographing for evidence collection, based on their chosen academy track.

Students are also exposed to a wide variety of legal expertise through guest speakers such as local, state, and federal judges, DEA agents, law enforcement personnel, and attorneys. Students also participate in various curriculum-oriented field trips.

The Law & Criminal Justice Leadership Academy student externship opportunity allows students to learn from a Tampa judge once a week for a semester. To culminate the program, student in their senior year participate in a weekly externship under the direction of a judge at one of several local courthouses. This externship brings together all aspects of the law and criminal justice experience offering students a first-hand view of the legal system.

“A genuine leaders is not a searcher for consensus but a molder of consensus”  
Martin Luther King, Jr.

Points of Pride

- Students participating in the law track will take the test to receive their Legal Assisting certification.
- Students participating in the criminal justice track will take the test to receive their Police Assisting certification.
- Students have often been hired to work at law firms in Tampa after they graduate from Jefferson. Students are also employed at the Courthouse in various administrative positions.
- Students have opportunities to receive scholarships.
- Students have the opportunity to participate in Community Service through their CTSO (Career Technical Student Organization).