

*Student Spotlight*  
**ALMA SANCHEZ**

**Dolores M. Williams**  
Assistant City Attorney

Alma Sanchez is a senior at Hoggard High School and serves her community as a member of the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC). Alma is one of 26 members of the JCPC, most of whom are adults representing various community agencies that provide services to youth or fight crime, including the Department of Social Services, the Health Department, the District Attorney's Office, Department of Juvenile Justice, the Sheriff's Office, and the Wilmington Police Department.

Each of the 100 counties in North Carolina has a JCPC authorized by State statute. The JCPC is to assess, prioritize and identify ways to meet the needs of youth who are at-risk for delinquency or who have been determined by the court to be undisciplined or delinquent. The JCPC identifies community risk factors and recommends the allocation of State funding for youth programs to the New Hanover County Board of Commissioners. The JCPC monitors and evaluates the effectiveness of the funded programs. The JCPC meets at least six times per year according to a calendar of meetings adopted by the JCPC. The meetings are open to the public.

Alma has served as a youth member of the JCPC since September 2006 and has made decisions regarding the services to be provided to youth in New Hanover County. Alma was a Teen Court volunteer and joined the JCPC "to help kids stay out of trouble." She says it is rewarding to be part of the good things that the funded agencies are doing to help kids. Alma is currently a member of the JCPC Publicity Committee that recently launched a New Hanover County JCPC newsletter and is working to update the JCPC website. Nicholas Scarff, a junior at Hoggard, is the other youth member who was recently appointed to the JCPC by the New Hanover County Board of Commissioners.

For more information about the JCPC or how you can serve, contact the New Hanover County Manager's Office at 798-7184.



*Alma Sanchez, youth member of the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council, as defense attorney in the mock teen court trial at a conference for educators sponsored by the NC Bar Association on October 6.*