



# Welcome to the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina!

We are excited to welcome you to the federal courthouse. There are a few very important things to know before you visit.

- 1. Think of it like a library!** Court staff and judges are hard at work in their offices and in courtrooms. Lawyers may be preparing for court proceedings. Families may be present to show love and support for criminal defendants who are scheduled for trials or sentencing. **So, while in the hallways, please speak quietly if you need to talk and walk quietly from one place to the other.**
- 2. Think of it like a school!** To show respect for the work of the judiciary, please **take off your hats and hoods** when entering the building, **throw away your gum** in the trashcan before entering the courtroom, **sit up straight** when the judge and others are talking to you, and **stay wide awake.**

And, like school, **when the judge and others are talking to you, please do not talk.**

**But, when you have a question, raise your hand. And, when you are asked a question, feel free to speak up so that you can be heard in the courtroom. When working on activities, collaborate and speak with each other, but be courteous to other groups who may be working also.**

**Cell phones and other electronics are not allowed in the building without permission from a judge. Teachers will be permitted to bring cell phones if necessary for their teaching responsibilities.**