



Scouting America
Law Merit Badge:
Community Outreach for Civics Education

CIVICS

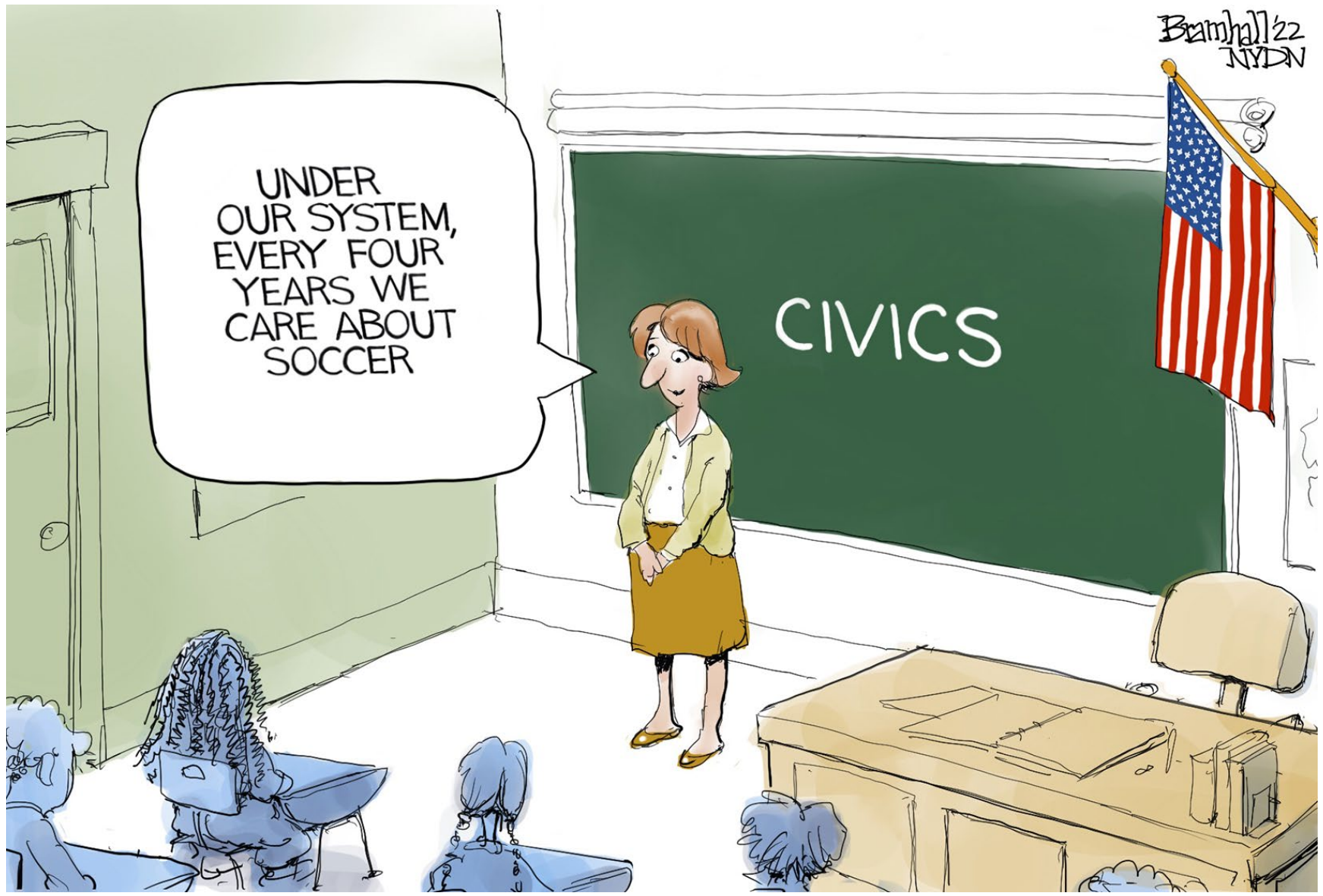
Dictionary: Definitions from Oxford Languages

Sounds like civ·ics /siviks/

Noun **British**

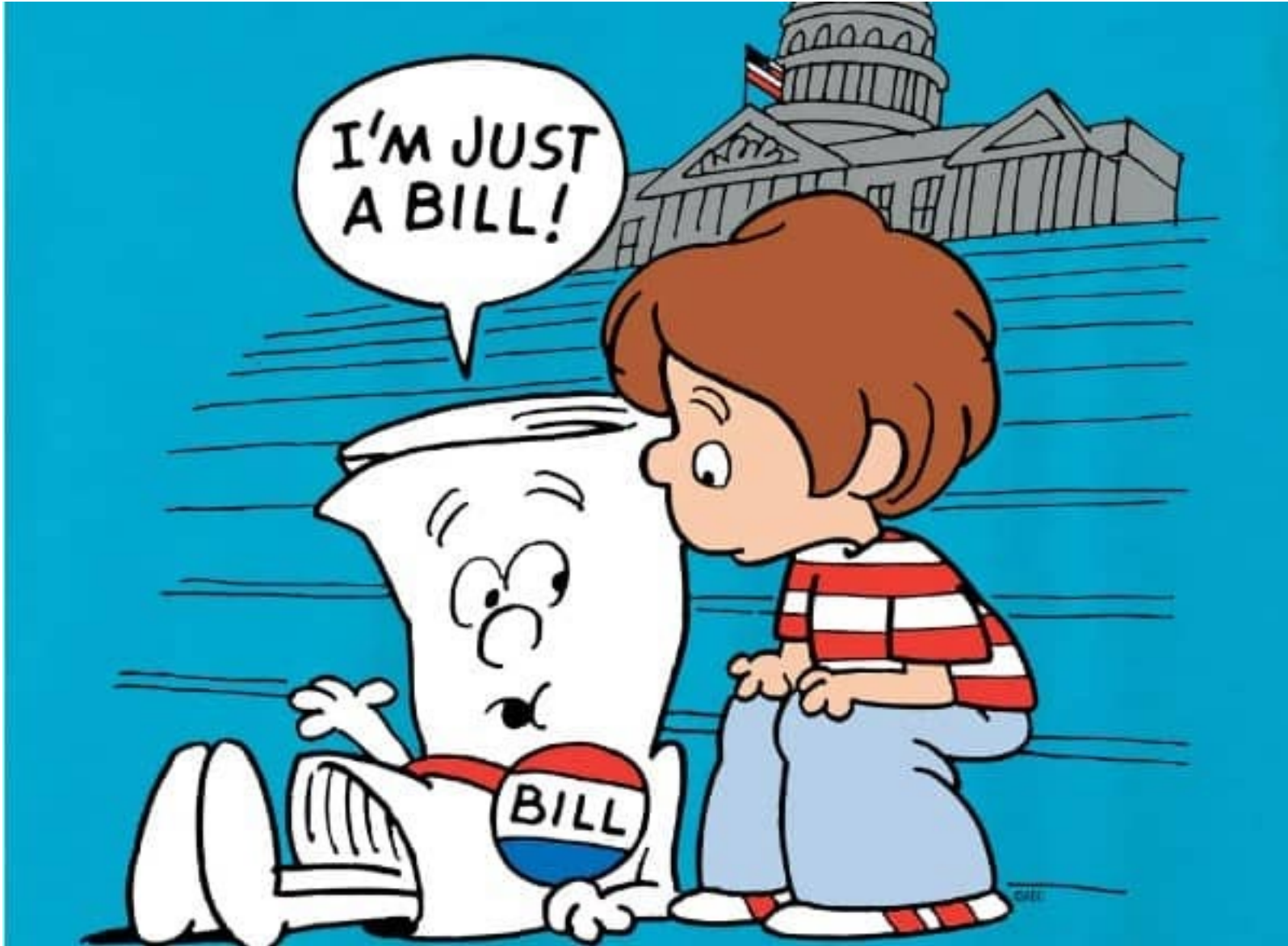
“the study of the rights and duties of citizenship.”

Bramhall '22
NYDN



UNDER
OUR SYSTEM,
EVERY FOUR
YEARS WE
CARE ABOUT
SOCCER

CIVICS





Survey of

CIVIC LITERACY

2024



New Poll: Public Attitudes on

DEMOCRACY

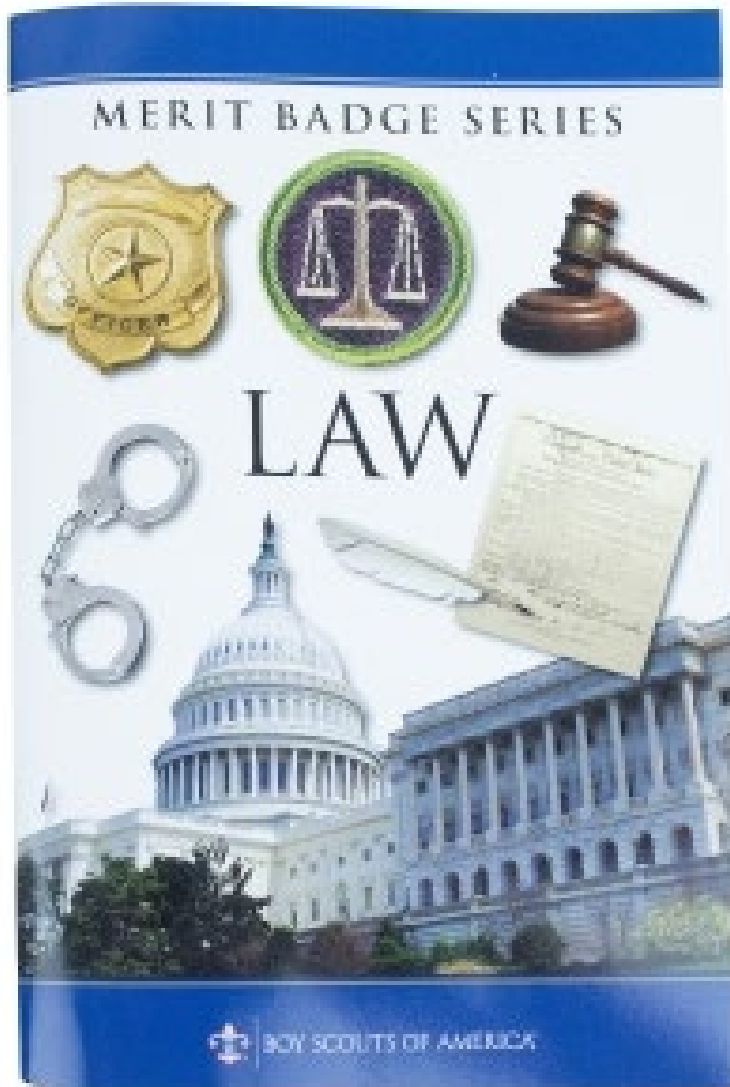


2024 Civic Literacy Questions and Responses:

What does the judicial branch do?

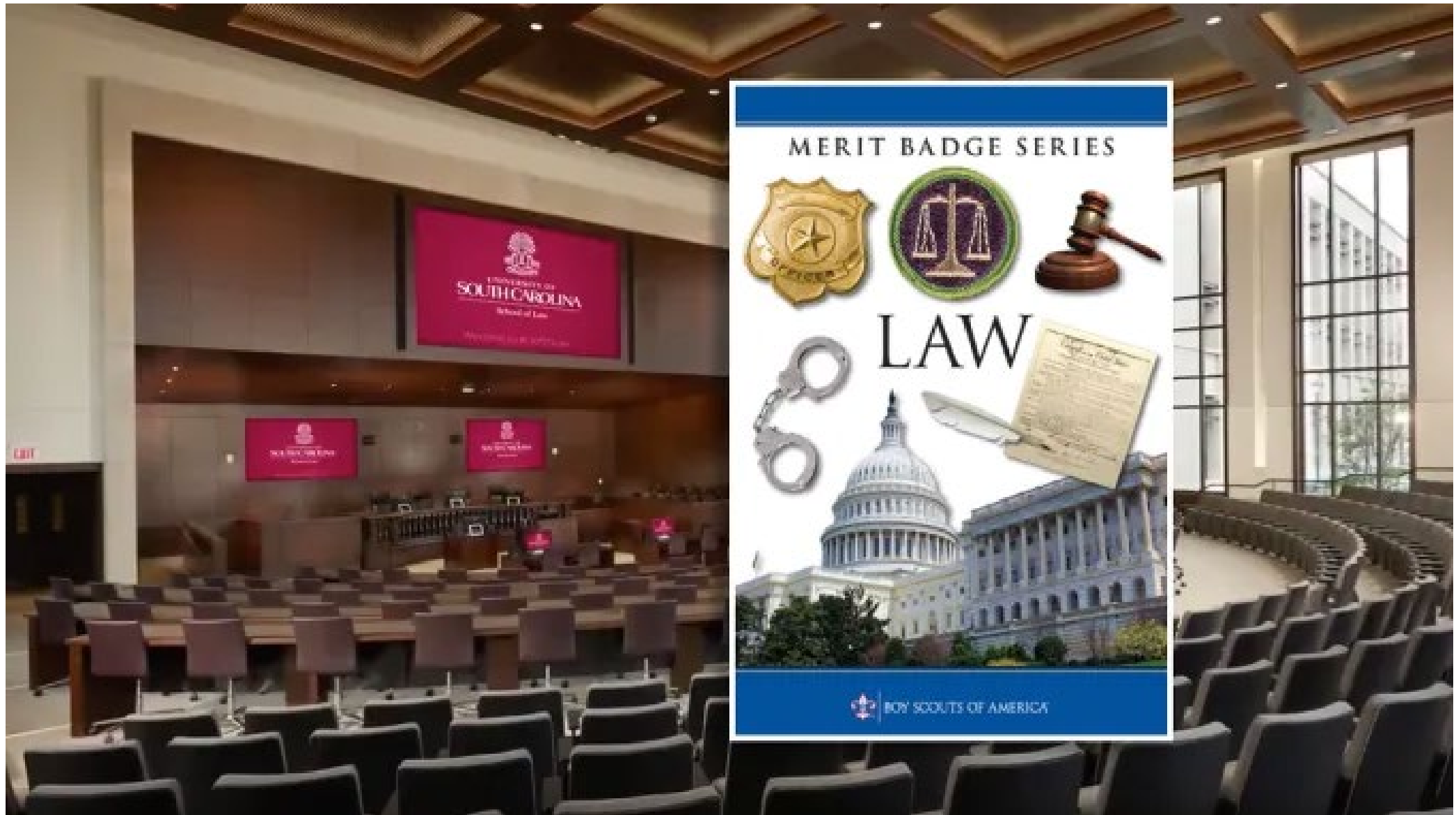
- Writes laws 14%
- Reviews laws 41%*
- Enforces laws 38%
- Abolishes laws 1%
- Undecided 5%

* Correct answer if you were among the 59% who got it wrong!



Connect youths and civics:

Host a one-day program for the Law Merit Badge!

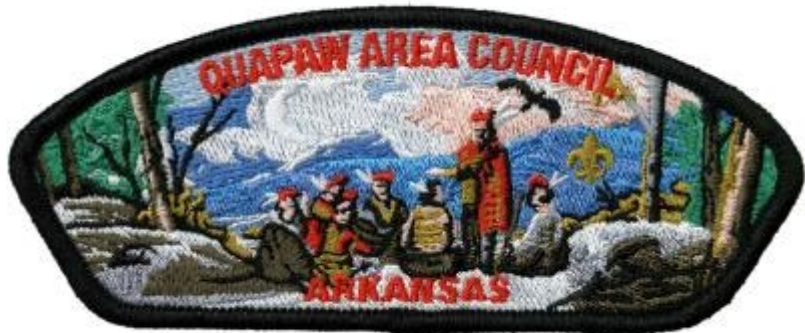
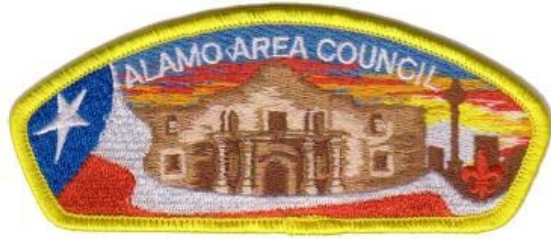


MERIT BADGE SERIES

LAW

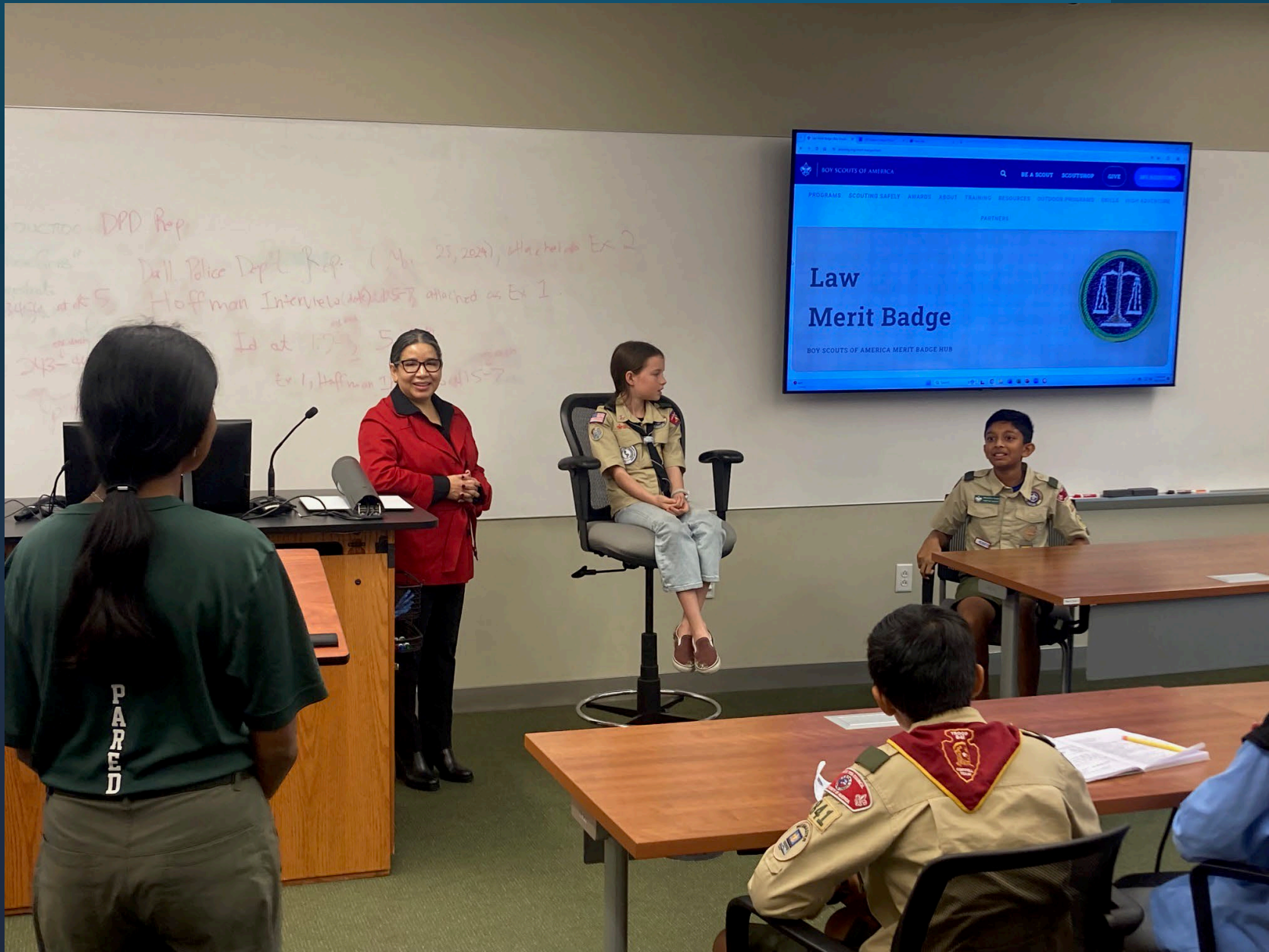
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

The central graphic features a collage of legal and justice-related icons: a gold police badge with a star, a purple circular emblem with scales of justice, a wooden gavel, silver handcuffs, a document with a signature, and a photograph of the United States Capitol building. The text 'MERIT BADGE SERIES' is at the top, 'LAW' is in the center, and the Boy Scouts of America logo and name are at the bottom.



Law Merit Badge Requirements:

- 1. Define "law." Tell some of its sources. Describe the functions it serves.**
- 2. Discuss TWO of the following:**
 - (a) Justinian's Code, the Code of Hammurabi, and the Magna Carta
 - (b) The development of the jury system
 - (c) Two famous trials in history.
- 3. Tell what civil law is; tell what criminal law is. Tell the main differences between them. Give examples of each.**
- 4. Ask five people about the role of law enforcement officers in our society. Discuss their answers with them. Go to a law enforcement officer in neighborhood and ask about his or her responsibilities and duties. Report your findings to your counselor.**
- 5. Discuss with your counselor several laws that were passed to protect the consumer and the seller. Describe several organizations that provide consumers and sellers.**
- 6. Do ONE of the following:**
 - (a) Attend a session of a civil or criminal court. Write 250 words or more on what you saw.
 - (b) Plan and conduct a mock trial with your troop or school class. After the trial is over, discuss it with the group.
- 7. Arrange a visit with a lawyer who works for a business, bank, title company, or government agency. Find out his or her duties and responsibilities. Report what you have learned.**
- 8. Explain the requirements for becoming a lawyer in your state. Describe how judges are selected in your state.**
- 9. Make a list of 15 jobs that deal with some aspects of law or legal processes. Tell which you prefer. Why?**
- 10. Tell where people can go to obtain the help of a lawyer if they are unable to pay for one. Tell what you can do if you can afford a lawyer but do not know of any in your area.**
- 11. Discuss with your counselor the importance in our society of TWO of the following areas of the law or process: Administrative, Alternative Dispute Resolution, Bankruptcy, Biotechnology, Environmental, Family, Immigration, Information Technology, Intellectual Property, or International, Privacy.**



DPD Rep.
Dall Police Dept Rep. (Mar. 23, 2024), attached as Ex 2
Hoffman Interview (attached as Ex 1)
Id at 17-18, 5
Ex 1, Hoffman Interview at 15-2

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

BE A SCOUT SCOUTSHIP GIVE

PROGRAMS SCOUTING SAFETY AWARDS ABOUT TRAINING RESOURCES PROGRAMS SKILLS UNIT ACQUISITION

PARTNER

Law Merit Badge

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA MERIT BADGE HUB



P
A
R
E
D



4. Ask five people about the role of law enforcement officers in our society. Discuss their answers with them. Go to a law enforcement officer in your neighborhood and ask about his or her responsibilities and duties. Report your findings to your counselor.

Sample Questions to Ask the General Public for Requirement 4

With each of the following questions, ask people you interview to indicate if they

- Strongly agree Have no opinion Strongly disagree
 Agree Disagree

After they answer these questions, discuss their views with them.

1. Police do the best job possible at all times.
2. Police officers do not understand the needs of the average person.
3. All police officers are good police officers.
4. Police officers are too tough; they are all bullies.
5. Police officers are not tough enough; they let people get away with too much.
6. Police officers should be free to shoot looters and rioters.
7. I can trust most police officers.
8. There are relatively few dishonest police officers.
9. We can do little to help law enforcement.
10. Street patrol is a good crime deterrent.
11. Walking the "beat" is helpful to both police and the community.
12. Being a police officer is not at all risky.
13. Police should have more education and better training.
14. Police are trained well enough; they can handle almost any situation.
15. It is possible I could be a police officer's friend and he or she could be my friend.
16. Police officers could be used more effectively in fighting crime.
17. Employing "para-police" or community service officers would be a big step toward better use of trained police personnel.
18. Nothing can be done about a dishonest police officer.
19. Society would be unsafe and unpleasant without police.
20. Police officers should be allowed to strike.





6. Do ONE of the following:

(b) Plan and conduct a mock trial with your troop or school class. After the trial is over, discuss it with the group.

Mock Trial Script

The Case of a Stolen Car

This mock trial is appropriate for the Boy Scout Merit Badge program consistent with the requirements for that Merit badge. The script includes a role for a narrator, who explains the action.

Modified from a mock trial transcript published by SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA







Military Oath of Commissioned Officers:

I ____, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the **Constitution of the United States** against all enemies, foreign and domestic;
that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion;
and that I will well and faithfully **discharge the duties of the office** on which I am about to enter.
So help me God.

Scout Oath:

On my honor, I will do my best to do **my duty to God** and **my country** and to obey the Scout Law; to **help other people** at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

Texas Attorney's Oath:

I, _____do solemnly swear that I will **support the Constitutions of the United States**, and of this state; that I will honestly demean myself in the practice of law; that I will discharge **my duties to my clients** to the best of my ability; and that I will conduct myself with integrity and civility in dealing and communicating with the court and all parties. **So help me God.**

