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**MVCTC Social Studies Students Visit Federal Court Building**

**Dayton, Ohio** – Students from two Miami Valley Career Technology Center (MVCTC) social studies classes visited the Honorable Walter Rice’s courtroom in the Federal Court building in Dayton, Ohio on February 14. The chaperones for the visit were MVCTC teachers, Mr. Eric Dolan and Mrs. Amber Schmid.

During their visit, students learned firsthand about serving on a federal grand jury. In addition, students witnessed the resentencing of a man convicted of selling drugs. His sentence was being revisited due to a decision made by the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. After the resentencing, Federal Judge Walter Rice spoke with the students in his courtroom. He had the federal prosecutor and the defense attorney explain their roles and discuss their backgrounds. When they were finished, Judge Rice explained the details of the case and as well as his ruling in the context of constitutional law as it relates to due process. When Judge Rice completed his explanation, students were asked to share any questions they might have had. Students’ questions were well thought out and respectfully submitted. In fact, Judge Rice seemed quite impressed and took plenty of time in answering each student’s question. For example, one of the students asked the judge if he regretted any of his decisions. Judge Rice explained that he spends a considerable amount of time reaching his decisions, and because of the thought and research put into this process, he is not conflicted about his decisions. The visit closed with Judge Rice letting students know that they were well behaved and always welcome in his courtroom. He also added that should students choose a career in law, they could job shadow him or any federal employee.

For more information about MVCTC, visit [www.mvctc.com](http://www.mvctc.com). Sophomore applications for the 2012-13 school year are being accepted now.

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Photo: MVCTC Social Studies classes visited the Honorable Walter Rice's courtroom in the Federal Court building in Dayton, Ohio.