



Orange County News

For Immediate Release
Thursday, March 05, 2026

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District Attorney David Hoovler Announces the Sixth Orange County District Attorney's Office Youth Fishing Derby

"Get Hooked on Fishing, Not Drugs"

Orange County District Attorney David M. Hoovler on Thursday, March 5, 2026, announced the launch of the sixth Orange County District Attorney's Office Youth Fishing Derby. The derby will run from April 1, 2026, through September 14, 2026, and is open to children between the ages of four and eighteen who are children or grandchildren of Orange County residents.

Fishing teaches many life lessons, such as patience and how to deal with success and failure. Several U.S. presidents were accomplished fishermen and used fishing to relax from the stress and responsibilities of their office. Participants will learn to enjoy and respect nature and, by spending more time with family and friends, alleviate some of the boredom and anxiety caused by the stress of daily life. It is that boredom and anxiety that has led so many of our young people to turn to drug use or gang activity. Sports and other worthwhile activities can help deter young people from those bad choices. This contest, started during Covid, will encourage our young people to go fishing and enjoy the outdoors while hopefully avoiding drug use and other poor choices.

The Youth Fishing Derby is part of District Attorney Hoovler's Community Outreach Program. Remember, any size fish entered in the contest has an equal chance of winning a prize for the contestant.

CONTEST RULES: Entry into the Youth Fishing Derby is free. All fish entered in the contest must be legally caught from anywhere in New York State. Contestants must adhere to all current New York State fishing regulations. Fresh and saltwater fish are eligible to be entered into the contest. To enter, email a photo of the contestant holding the fish, as well as the child's first name and an adult contact phone number, to dafishingcontest@gmail.com. Each angler can enter up to three fish photos during the contest, to have multiple chances to win. Ten winners will be drawn at random from all entries received during the contest dates. Each angler is limited to one prize package. All photos entered in the contest become the property of the Orange County District Attorney's Office Youth Fishing Derby.

PRIZE PACKAGE: Each winner will receive an Orange County District Attorney's Office limited t-shirt and a Mystery Tackle Box Bass Fishing Kit. Bonus prize: The first winner drawn will also receive a \$100 gift card. Prizes can be picked up at the District Attorney's Office by the winners in Goshen or will be mailed to them at the conclusion of the contest.