



*Commissioner Neil Hernandez, Deputy Commissioner Herman Dawson and Executive Assistant Andre Mullings meet with aspiring lawyers.*

## **Commissioners Speak with Aspiring Lawyers**

On Monday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, Commissioner Neil Hernandez and Deputy Commissioner for Legal Affairs Herman Dawson addressed approximately one dozen high school students participating in a two week summer law program at Monroe College, for youth aspiring to become attorneys.

The Summer Law Program for High School Students at Monroe College, in its second year, gives high school students with an interest in a career in law the opportunity to experience first hand what is required to prepare for a career in law or law enforcement. In addition, the program gives its gifted participants the rare opportunity to meet experienced professionals in all aspects of criminal and civil law, visit law enforcement agencies and participate in mock trials.

Commissioner Hernandez, a lawyer himself, and Deputy Commissioner Dawson explained to the aspiring lawyers reasons why they themselves pursued a career in law. The Commissioners also stated to the enthusiastic and extremely inquisitive youngsters how acquiring a degree in law has helped them in their professional lives. Deputy Commissioner Dawson summed up the experience as follows, “Each and every youngster participating in this program exhibited poise and insight far beyond their age, making it easy to mistake them for students already enrolled in college, as opposed to high school students, which is quite inspiring”.

Executive Assistant to the Commissioner, Andre Mullings concluded, “You could see that the students were extremely grateful to have the opportunity to hear from the Commissioners, who come from backgrounds similar to their own”.

