

MOCK TRIAL MATTERS www.nationalmocktrial.org

CALENDAR

January 15—State
Membership Fees Due

January 16—Preliminary
Interest form

April 1— National Case
Release.

April 15—Deadline
1) Team registration
2) Event ticket orders
3) Tournament schedule
adjustment
4) Last day to update
registration.
5) Mandatory Coordinator
Survey

April 17—Deadline
Hotel Reservations

April 22—Deadline
Payment for registration
and event tickets.

**TBA—Practice Room
Schedules, Photo
Schedules, Rules
Questions.**

**May 14-16—
National Tournament,
Raleigh, NC**

**May 14—State Coordinators
Meeting; Timekeeper
Orientation; Coaches
Orientation and Team Pin
Exchange.**

**May 15— Rounds 1 & 2;
Judges' Reception; Team
Scavenger Hunt.**

**May 16—Rounds 3 & 4;
Championship Round;
Awards Gala & Dance.**

**May 17— Scoring Ballots
available for state
coordinator pick-up.**

2015 NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL CHAMPIONSHIP Raleigh, North Carolina

Welcome To Raleigh! By North Carolina Host Director, M.
Gordon Widenhouse, Jr.

The Carolina Center for Civic Education, which is hosting the
National High School Mock Trial Championship, is moving into
the home stretch!

As the capital city of North Carolina, Raleigh offers the advantage of
numerous museums, an active downtown area with ample restaurants and
a burgeoning upscale residential population, a free downtown shuttle bus,
a major airport (RDU) located only fifteen miles from downtown, and an
active Visitors Bureau eager to provide detailed information on local and
statewide attractions to our guests.



Known as the City of Oaks, Raleigh has a large
sculpture of an acorn that it drops every New
Year's Eve. A statue of Sir Walter Raleigh, for
whom the city is named, moves around the
downtown area. There are other historic
buildings in the downtown area, including the
State Capitol and the Justice Building, home of
the Supreme Court of North Carolina. Each
year, Raleigh hosts a very enjoyable Artsposure event. It will coincide

with NHSMTTC coming to Raleigh in May 2015. Artsposure will provide opportunities to experience some of the best in local visual and musical art experiences in a very informal setting.

The trials on Friday and Saturday will be held at the new Wake County courthouse (in two connected buildings), the nearby Campbell Law School, and the North Carolina State Bar. The Championship Round will be in the ceremonial courtroom in the Wake County Courthouse, a beautiful large courtroom.

There are two host hotels, the Marriott and Sheraton. Both are within two blocks of the courthouse and are next door to the Raleigh Convention Center (site of the Saturday Awards Gala). Rooms will be available on Wednesday and Thursday for team practices as well as the meetings of the National Board and the State Coordinators.

On Thursday evening, the Pin Exchange will be at the Sheraton. It will include a buffet of Southern cuisine and intermittent entertainment by circus performers, both indoors and outdoors.

On Friday evening, there will be a scavenger hunt in the downtown area in conjunction with Raleigh's annual Artsposure celebration. There will be food trucks in the area especially for attendees of the competition. There will be a reception for judges and lawyers on Friday evening at the North Carolina State Bar, which is also in downtown Raleigh.

On Saturday evening, the Awards Ceremony will include a dessert buffet, followed by a dance, in the Raleigh Convention Center next door to the Sheraton and Marriott. We have some special features for this closing portion of the championship that we believe will make it memorable for everyone involved.

Our website for the NHSMTTC 2015 is online at <http://ncmocktrial.org/nationals2015>. We look forward to welcoming you to Raleigh in May!

HOTEL INFORMATION

Sheraton Raleigh Hotel

Site of the Thursday Pin Exchange and located only two blocks from the courthouse, the Sheraton Raleigh Hotel is one of our two headquarters for the Championship. The hotel is located at 421 South Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC 27601. Room rates are \$129/night for singles – quads; \$169 for Club; \$400 and up for suites. Free internet is



provided; rates do not include parking fees or applicable state and local taxes. Visit sheratonraleigh.com for more hotel information. For reservations call 800-325-3535 and identify yourself as part of the “National High School Mock Trial Championship” group. All reservations must be guaranteed and accompanied by a first night room and tax deposit with a major credit card. ***Deadline is 5:00 p.m. EDT on Friday, April 17.***

Raleigh Marriott City Center

Located beside the Sheraton and only two blocks from the courthouse, the Marriott is also a headquarters for the event. Most team scrimmage rooms are in the Marriott; the Thursday pre-event meetings for coaches, timekeepers, and State Coordinators will also be held here. The hotel is located at 500 Fayetteville Street, Raleigh, NC 27601. Room



rates are \$145/night for singles – quads. Free internet is provided; rates do not include parking fees or applicable taxes. Visit marriott.com/hotels/travel/rdumc-raleigh-marriott-city-center for more hotel information. For reservations call 800-228-9290 or 919-833-1120 and identify yourself as part of the “National High School Mock Trial” group. All reservations must be

accompanied by a first night room deposit or guaranteed by a major credit card. ***Deadline is 5:00 p.m. EDT on Friday, April 17.***

Transportation— Air

All teams and attendees are responsible for making their own transportation arrangements to attend the event. Raleigh-Durham International Airport (RDU) is located 15 miles from downtown Raleigh. Visit the airport website at rdu.com.

Transportation— Ground

Neither of the tournament hotels provides free shuttle service to the airport. Taxi cab companies and rental cars are available at RDU. Estimated fees: Super Shuttle (\$40 one-way; reservations required); taxi fare (\$45 one way). Check back for updates as we are working to arrange reduced rates for our event attendees.

Judging Panel Sign-up and Other Volunteers Sign-up

Attorneys and Judges interested in volunteering to judge the 2015 National High School Mock Trial Championship are encouraged to complete a volunteer form as soon as possible. Each round of the tournament will be judged by a panel comprised of one presiding judge and three scoring judges. All judging materials will be provided electronically to judging panel members several weeks prior to the Championship. An orientation will be provided on the days of the Championship for judges prior to the beginning of each round. Judges and attorneys may volunteer to judge one or more rounds at their convenience. Judges for the National High School Mock Trial Championship are required to have previously judged a minimum of two rounds of a mock trial competition. If you would like to volunteer as a judge for Nationals, please contact your local Mock Trial State Coordinator to volunteer at one of the state tournaments.

**New information will be added to
the website regularly.**

[NHSMTTC 2015](#)

A Word From Our Chair

By Dewain Fox



During the holiday season, we think a lot about sharing. It's a good time to reflect on how we've shared with one another over the past year, and how our sharing benefits our communities. Like all communities, our mock trial community benefits when we share with one another. I want to take this opportunity to shine a light on a couple of recent instances of sharing that have made the mock trial community a better community.

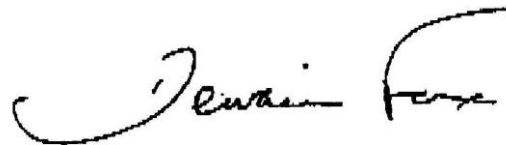
First, I would like to commend the State Bar of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin High School Mock Trial Host Committee--the hosts of the 2014 National Championship in Madison--for their tremendous generosity. At the October 2014 board meeting, the Wisconsin Host Committee reported that its outstanding fundraising efforts resulted in a significant surplus of funds--which naturally will be used to (among other things) defray the expense of sending the Wisconsin championship team to the 2015 National Championship. What almost went unnoticed, however, is that Katie Wilcox (the 2014 Host Director) discretely handed Gordon Widenhouse (the 2015 Host Director) a check for **\$5,800!** Needless to say, this contribution provided a much-appreciated boost to the North Carolina Host Committee's fundraising efforts. Thank you to the Wisconsin Host Committee for sharing its good fortune for the betterment of the mock trial community!

Second, I want to thank Gary Kern for sharing the gift of his time and expertise with NHSMTC. In addition to being a professor of computer system design at Indiana University South Bend, Gary and his wife Beth are proud mock trial parents. As a way to give back to the mock trial community, Gary has worked with NHSMTC's Competition Operations Committee since the 2013 National Championship to create a new scoring/judge assignment system. Over the past

couple of years, Gary has donated literally hundreds of hours creating, testing and implementing feedback to improve this system--which is essential to the smooth and accurate running of the National Championship scoring room. Gary demonstrated the new software for the NHSMTC Board at the October 2014 meeting. Thank you to Gary for sharing his tremendous gifts of time and talent for the benefit of the mock trial community.

These are but two examples of sharing that makes our mock trial community better. Contributing cases to the case database maintained on the NHSMTC website is another important way that our individual state mock trial programs can share with fellow mock trial programs. Easy-to-follow instructions for uploading case materials can be found in the Member Area of the website. Unfortunately, only a handful of states added their 2014 case materials to the library. If you have not done so already, please consider taking a few minutes during this holiday season to upload your state's 2014 case materials.

Finally, I wish every one of you a blessed holiday season, and look forward to seeing you in Raleigh in May!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dewain Fox". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "D" and a long, horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dewain Fox, Board Chair

Nationals 2016 Host Idaho!

Go West Young Men (And Women)!

Carey Ann Shoufler (Idaho), 2016 Host Director

Three things you likely know about Boise, Idaho:

- 1) Boise is the capitol of the state of Idaho, which is either the furthest eastern point of the Pacific Northwest or the furthest western point of the Rocky Mountain West, depending on who you ask.
- 2) Boise is home to the famous Boise State University blue football field (sometimes called The Smurf Turf).
- 3) In May 2016, Boise will serve as host to the National High School Mock Trial Championship.



Three things you will learn when you get here in 2016:

- 1) Boise has the largest Basque population outside of Spain and you will get to experience the city's Basque culture and heritage (and most importantly food) when the Pin Exchange is hosted on Boise's Basque Block.
- 2) Downtown Boise offers a lot of fun and vibrant restaurants and shopping, all within a short walk of the Boise Centre on the Grove and the Grove Hotel, which will serve as the central location for the event.
- 3) Boise is home to the gorgeous Ada County Courthouse, built in 2002, that will host all but the final round of the national competition.

The host organization for the 2016 National High School Mock Trial Championship is the Idaho Law Foundation, coordinated by its Law Related Education Program. Law Related Education oversees many civic education activities, including Idaho's High School Mock Trial Program.

The hub for the competition will be the Boise Centre on the Grove, centrally located in Downtown Boise. Our registration and information desk will be at the Centre. The Centre will also have rooms for practice sessions and will likely host team meals on Fridays and Saturdays.

Our local court has committed to the use of up to 27 courtrooms at the Ada County Courthouse. The Ada County Courthouse will be used for the first four rounds of competition on Friday and Saturday. Saturday's championship round will be held in the main hearing room at the newly renovated Idaho Statehouse.

The main hotel for the event will be The Grove Hotel, but to cover the number of rooms we will need, the National Host Committee has also booked blocks of rooms at other hotels in the downtown corridor. All hotels offer free shuttle service from the Boise Airport.

Boise's mock trial event will provide fun activities for teams and volunteers. The Pin Exchange will be held on Thursday evening on the Basque Block, which includes the Basque Museum. Basque food will be served and we are working to get some Basque dancers to come and perform that evening. Thursday night's Judges' Reception will be held at Holland & Hart, a northwest regional law firm with offices in Boise that has just opened up new offices with a spectacular view of the foothills surrounding Boise. And finally, the Awards Gala will be hosted Saturday evening at the Boise Centre on the Grove. We have planned a dessert bar before the awards ceremony and a dance for teams after the ceremony.

And finally, our case will be... you know we can't tell you about that yet. But we have been working hard to develop the case and trust me; it's a good one with lots of rich Idaho history and culture.

The Idaho Law Foundation looks forward to hosting the 2016 National High School Mock Trial Championship. We are excited to share our Boise community with the mock trial nation, highlighting our courts and our beautiful state as we plan a memorable event for teams, their families, state coordinators, and the many volunteers who will visit us. See you in the City of Trees in 2016!

NHSMTC Committee Updates

The National High School Mock Trial Championship, Inc. is an all-volunteer organization. There are no paid staff members who coordinate the activities of the NHSMTC.

The governing body of the NHSMTC, Inc. is the Board of Directors of the NHSMTC. The 2013-2014 Chair of the Board is Dewain Fox (AZ), Vice Chair is Emily Reilly (WI), Treasurer is Paul Kaufman (PA) and Secretary is Laura Wesley (CA).

Nominating Committee

David Berlin, Committee Chair

A scheduled election will be held during the State Coordinators' meeting on May 14th in Raleigh. There are 4 at-large Board positions up for election this year. According to the by-laws, interested candidates are to submit their letter of intent to run to the Nomination Committee Chair (David Berlin) no later than March 14, 2015. Submissions can be emailed to dंबरl@duhigglaw.com.

Site Selection Committee

Gordon Widenhouse, Committee Chair

The committee reported that Civics First, Inc. will host the 2017 National Championship in Hartford, Connecticut. The 2017 National Championship will take place May 11-13, 2017. NHSMTC. is soliciting bids to host the 2018 National Championship. If your organization is interested in hosting the 2018 National Championship, please see the [Bid Submission and Selection Process](#) for information on submitting a bid site in 2018 or beyond! For more information contact Gordon Widenhouse at mgwidenhouse@yahoo.com.

Rules Committee

Pete Jones, Committee Chair

The National Board adopted one change to the rules governing the national championship tournament at its meeting in October. The change is to Rule 3.2 Team Composition. The rule now reads:

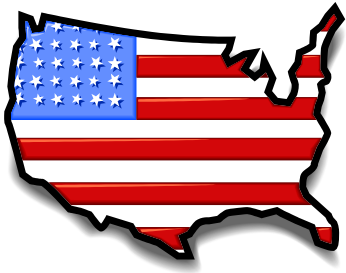
“... The Team Roster will become official at the close of on-site registration.”

Awards Committee

Cynthia Cothran, Committee Chair

Now accepting applications for the Golden Gavel Award. The Justice Gene Franchini Golden Gavel Award recognizes any adult individual who has demonstrated exemplary dedication and commitment to the goals and ideals of the national high school mock trial program. Nominations and supporting documentation for this award can be submitted by March 1 to the Chair of the Awards Committee. Visit www.nationalmocktrial.org for the application.

NHSMTC is pleased to announce the second annual **Larry Bakko Professionalism and Civility Award**. The award was created to highlight the importance of professionalism among teams participating in our national tournament while honoring Larry Bakko's passion and dedication for Mock Trial. An award nomination ballot and instructions will be included in the team's registration packet. During the competition experience, your team and coaches will observe other participating teams and, using a subjective process, will nominate another team to be considered for the award. As a reminder teams may not campaign for this award. For questions regarding this award, contact Cynthia H. Cothran at (803) 576-3788 or ccothran@sbar.org prior to the competition.



News and Notes From Around the Nation

California

By Lourdes Morales, Constitutional Rights Foundation



Constitutional Rights Foundation (CRF) just concluded its 37th Annual Los Angeles County competition. This year we had 94 high school teams and 42 middle schools teams compete. CRF created a Clerk and Bailiff webcast for the Los Angeles County Competition at <http://crf-usa.org/mock-trial-los-angeles/la-mock-trial-download-forms.html>.

CRF is excited to host its 34th Annual California Mock Trial State Finals in Riverside, March 20-22, 2015. The program currently involves 36 California counties and over 8,000 students. This year's case, *People v. Shem*, is the trial of Evan Shem, who faces one felony count, theft by larceny, for the theft of *Treason*, a painting by Fletcher Yazoo. *Treason* is owned by wealthy art collector Marty McCulloch, with a pretrial argument involving the Fourth Amendment. Check out a jeopardy game to go along with this year's case at http://crf-usa.org/images/stories/Mock_Trial_Jeopardy_2014-

[2015_Shem.pdf](#) created by a mock trial attorney coach from San Diego.

For more information about CRF or the Mock Trial Program, visit our website at www.crf-usa.org.

Georgia

By **Michael Nixon**, State Bar of Georgia

The Georgia High School Mock Trial Competition registered 139 teams for the 2015 season, the highest number in many years. The teams will compete in 16 Regions across the state the weekends of January 31 and February 6. The season began with the 17th annual Law Academy, held at the State Bar of Georgia's conference facilities over the weekend of September 18-21. Students from around the state participated in small and large group seminars led by judges and attorneys involved with the program. The weekend culminated with the students taking the Student Bar Exam Sunday afternoon, where 15 students were admitted into the Student Bar of Georgia, 5 with Honors.

The case for the 2015 season is *Stuart vs. Garfunkel Property Group*. The originally written case centers on a confrontation between the new head of security at The Mall at Carley Corners and one of the elderly mall walker patrons. The confrontation escalated to the point where the security guard used a Taser-like device on the walker after the guard felt threatened by the walker's actions. The walker is suing the mall management company for negligent hiring and negligent retention of the guard, saying the company should have known the liability the guard would have been as head of security. The guard is testifying for the plaintiff against the former employer, claiming that their actions were in line with what the mall wanted.

We will again be hosting the Craig Harding Memorial Court Artist Contest during the Regional competition in the spring. Through the partnership with the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD), the State Champion Court Artist will be travelling with the state Mock Trial Champion team to Raleigh to draw at the National Competition.

Last season was the first season with the new District level of competition for the Georgia program. 48 teams were able to compete at the next level beyond the Regional competitions, with 8 advancing to the State Finals Competition. Many felt that the level of competition at the State level was much better than in years past and teams enjoyed the opportunity to compete after the Regional weekend. We are excited to see how the second year of the Districts adds to the competitiveness of the statewide competition.

Idaho

By Carey Ann Shoufler, Idaho Law Foundation

The Idaho Law Foundation's Law Related Education Program is getting ready for the upcoming 2015 Idaho High School Mock Trial Competition. Three regional tournaments will be hosted in different parts of the state on in late February and early March. 12 teams will advance from the regionals to the state competition to be hosted in Boise on March 19 to 21.

TAKE YOUR STUDENTS TO COURT

For more information about the Idaho High School Mock Trial Program visit www.idaholawfoundation.org or contact Carey Shoufler at (208) 334-4500 or cshoufler@isb.idaho.gov

Mock trial taught me... that it isn't to be a lawyer, just yours, and that your mind is the key to the success of a trial.

THE IDAHO LAW FOUNDATION
Helping the profession serve the public

NOT BECAUSE YOU HAVE TO. BECAUSE YOU WANT TO.

The Idaho Law Foundation's Law Related Education program invites you to participate in the 2015 Idaho High School Mock Trial Competition.

This year for the first time we sent a marketing postcard to all secondary schools in Idaho, hoping to recruit new teams to participate. We have had six new schools express interest in participating, with three of those teams already registering for

the competition. In addition to our Idaho teams, Idaho will also be hosting a team from Montana this year, since Montana does not currently have a high school mock trial program.

Illinois

By Aleksandra Ostojic, Illinois State Bar Association

The 2014 ISBA High School Mock Trial Invitational was held on March 8 and 9, 2014, at the University of Illinois' College of Law in Champaign. Forty-two schools from across Illinois participated in the event. The winning team was St. Charles North High School, which went on to place tenth in the National High School Mock Trials in Madison, Wisconsin.

This was the first year the event was hosted by the College of Law. The new location was well-received by participants and volunteers. Moreover, the College of Law welcomed the event, recognizing that hosting the program and establishing a cooperative relationship could mutually benefit everyone involved.

The 2014 Invitational was successful due to the hard work of the ISBA's Standing Committee on Law-Related Education, Mock Trial Coordinator, Marley Nelson, and the many judges, attorneys, law students, undergraduate students, and others who generously volunteered their time to assist with the program. The program was also made possible by the sponsorship of the ISBA, Illinois LEARN, the Illinois Trial Team, and the Diversity Scholarship Foundation of Chicago, and by the generous support of many others. The ISBA's Standing Committee on Law-Related Education appreciates all of these supporters and invites any attorney, judges, or other legal professionals to join us next year for the 2015 ISBA High School Mock Trial Invitational at the University of Illinois' College of Law in Champaign on March 14 and 15, 2015.

A full list of participating schools, sponsors, and volunteers, information about volunteering, and general information about the 2015 Mock Trial Invitational, as it becomes available, can be found at: <http://www.isba.org/teachers/mocktrial>.

This year's Idaho mock trial case is a criminal case that involves an assault on a Federal officer by a returning veteran who may be suffering from PTSD. In addition to putting together our annual state competition, Idaho is excited to be planning for the 2016 National High School Mock Trial Championship that will be hosted in Boise.

Nevada

By Kathleen M. Dickinson, State Bar of Nevada

This year, Nevada hosted a mock trial workshop for 45 students, teachers and coordinators. The workshop is broken into sections such as opening, closing, decorum, objections etc. You can view the workshop on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLM-Oe6kFkCe22qyoz9a03TojIxazN7ztl>. A great resource for any mock trial student!

The Southern Nevada competition will take place at the Regional Justice Center in Las



Vegas on Saturday, February 14, 2015 and the Northern Nevada competition will take place at the Bruce Thompson Federal Courthouse in Reno on Friday, February 20, 2015. The Nevada State competition will take place March 6th and March 7th in Reno. This year there will be 30 teams competing regionally with 8 teams competing at the state

finals. A big thank you to Oklahoma for allowing Nevada to use their case for state!

North Carolina

By Sue Johnson, Program Coordinator, Carolina Center for Civic Education



Cold, confused, and drenched, high school student Justin Burke awakened and stumbled out of a makeshift lean-to on a mountainside. He and his friends from ForensiTech camp had gotten lost on an

evening hike and were stranded. It was now 3 am. As he lurched away from the shelter, Justin slipped, tumbled down the mountain, and struck his head on a rock, leaving him with serious long-term injuries. Months later, Justin's parent, Sydney Burke, filed suit against ForensiTech camp for gross negligence, claiming that the camp was liable for Justin's injuries.

A tragic tale – but thankfully, a work of fiction. Nearly 60 teams of students across North Carolina are learning about diabetes, spinal cord injuries, and wilderness first aid as they prepare to argue the original case of *Justin Burke v. ForensiTech, Inc.* Teams will compete at 8 regional sites on February 7, 2015, with the regional champions advancing to state finals at Campbell Law School in Raleigh on March 6-7.

Several new teams have joined the program as a result of our 2014 summer mock trial camps (which, thankfully, did not entail any students lost on overnight hikes!). Camps were held in three locations – Chapel Hill, Asheville, and Fayetteville – and even attracted more than a dozen students from neighboring states. Attorneys and judges from the local community led the teaching sessions, and experienced college “mockers” served as mentors for the camp teams.

In 2015 we plan to offer only one camp, in Chapel Hill, due to the time involved in hosting the National Championship in Raleigh on May 14-17, 2015. We look forward to sharing our southern hospitality with all of you in May!



Students from Mendham High School of New Jersey were all smiles after winning the state title last spring. Photographed by Amanda Brown.

New Jersey

By Sheila Boro, New Jersey State Bar Foundation

An overnight school trip turns into a nightmare for a high school senior who leaves the hotel after curfew without

permission. Are the student and parent to blame or the teacher and school district? That's the question students will tackle as they take on the roles of lawyers, witnesses and jurors in the 2014-2015 Vincent J. Apruzzese High School Mock Trial Competition sponsored by the New Jersey State Bar Foundation in cooperation with New Jersey's county bar associations and the New Jersey State Bar Association. For more information and to download the workbook, which contains the rules, procedures and the new case, visit the Foundation's website, www.njsbf.org.

Other mock trial competitions sponsored by the New Jersey State Bar Foundation include Law Fair for grades 3 - 6 and Law Adventure for grades 7 and 8. In both competitions teachers guide their pupils in creating an original criminal or civil case on age-appropriate topics. In the spring, winning cases are performed by the students who wrote them at the New Jersey Law Center in New Brunswick before an audience of fellow students acting as jurors. Judges and attorneys preside over both Law Fair and Law Adventure mock trials. For students in grades K – 2 the Foundation offers the “Mini-Court Teacher’s Guide,” which contains lesson plans and related classroom activities and

resources designed to introduce legal concepts to young children. Law Fair, Law Adventure and Mini-Court materials can be downloaded from our website above.

Ohio

By Priya Sonty, Ohio Center For Civic Education

Things are gearing up for the Ohio Center for Law-Related Education's (OCLRE) 32nd High School Mock trial season! This year's case is about the 8th Amendment cruel and unusual punishment standards – a topic we have only selected once before in all our years of mock trial. The plaintiff in our case, Emerson “Money” Jones, is a former juvenile inmate and basketball prodigy who was grabbed by the wrist and slammed to the ground by a guard during a food fight. Later, the injury is diagnosed to be a sprained wrist at the prison infirmary, however after some time, Emerson is released and sees a doctor who determines the injury to be a fracture. Emerson is bringing suit against the correctional institute on two issues of cruel and unusual punishment – the excessive force of the guard, and the inadequate medical treatment of the nurse. Students are already having fun getting into character for witness statements of prison guards, inmates, and medical personnel!

OCLRE is looking forward to our district, regional, and state competitions in January, February, and March, and we can't wait to see who will win the state competition to head on to nationals in North Carolina! The center and our over 1,000 volunteers are prepared to welcome over 300 teams to this year's competition, impacting over 3,000 students across the Buckeye State. Never an easy task, but always a rewarding one. We wish the best of luck to mock trial teams competing all across our nation during the Winter and Spring.

OCLRE would be happy to help support any state programs out there that are still getting their bearings, and has several resources available, including lesson plans, past cases, and instructional videos of trials. For more information regarding Ohio Mock Trial and all of

the Center's programs please visit <http://www.ocltre.org> or reach out to me at psonty@ocltre.org.

Washington

By Andy McCarthy, Coach of Seattle Prep and Washington State Bar Association

Mock Trials, Real Benefits for All: Teens Take On Attorneys

Impact of Mock Trial on New Lawyers (**This is an excerpt from an article published in Washington State Bar Association's NWLawyer magazine. To read the full article, click on the link below:*

http://nwlawyer.wsba.org/nwlawyer/september_2014?folio=31#pg33)



Mock trial benefits attorneys at all stages of their careers. As mock trial continues to grow in popularity in Washington State and nationally, more and more attorneys come into the profession with the confidence that comes from high school or college mock trial experience. In high school, Nick Crown was recognized as one of the best “mock-trial attorneys” in the country at the national competition in Dallas in 2007. In college, he was

an All-American and helped found the University of Washington undergraduate mock trial program. Now a law student with a stellar academic record at the University of Virginia Law School, Crown says, “Mock trial taught me how to think.” It set him up for success in law school “because the exams are just mini mock trials. You get a set of rules, a fact pattern, and you’re tasked with thinking quickly to present the best arguments for each side. I learned how to do that from high school mock trial.”

Other attorneys not far out of law school credit high school mock trial with giving them a leg up in the profession. Coluccio says, “I think participating in mock trial gives me an invaluable sense of confidence in what I do every day, which is an incredible asset as a young lawyer. Standing before a judge for your first real hearing is slightly less intimidating after running a round before a state Supreme Court justice or a U.S. District judge.” Stafford notes that he realized that when he got to law school and when he began practicing, “Mock law made real law easier. Doing mock trial so many years before had given me the fundamental analytical skills I needed to succeed as an attorney.”

To read the complete article visit:

http://nwlawyer.wsba.org/nwlawyer/september_2014?folio=31#pg33

Resource Recap

- Trial Workshop (NV)—This workshop is broken into sections such as opening, closing, decorum, objections etc. You can view the workshop on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLM-Oe6kFkCe22qyoz9a03TojIxazN7ztI>
- Clerk and Bailiff webcast (CA) —<http://crf-usa.org/mock-trial-los-angeles/la-mock-trial-download-forms.html>
- Jeopardy game linked to case (CA) —http://crf-usa.org/images/stories/Mock_Trial_Jeopardy_2014-2015_Shem.pdf

NHSMTC Case Library

The National High School Mock Trial Championship, Inc., is pleased to provide a library of mock trial cases online under the Sample Case Database section of the website. The mock trial cases on the website are available to state coordinators interested in using these materials. Access to the case library requires a coordinator to login. To get the login information or update a program's coordinator contact information, the state coordinator should contact:

Dewain Fox at dfox@shermanhoward.com.

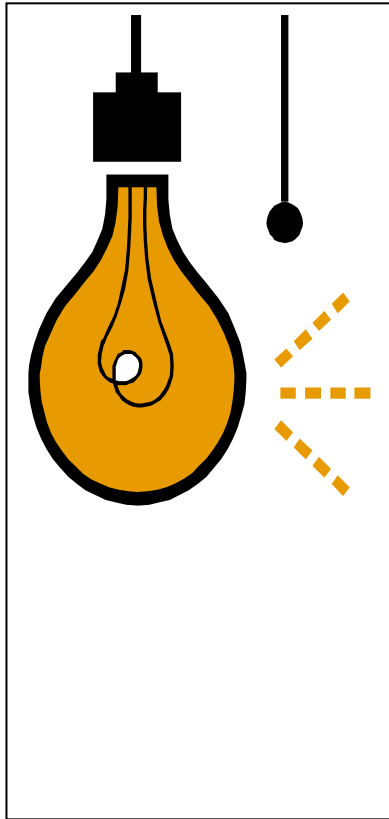
<http://www.nationalmocktrial.org/casesearch.cfm>

NHSMTC Championship Round DVDs

- Order the 2010 championship round DVD (PA-Criminal Case) online at <http://www.2010nationalmocktrial.com/>.
- Order the 2011 championship round DVD 2011 (AZ-Civil case) online at <http://www.azflse.org/mocktrial/2011>
- Order the 2012 championship round DVD 2012 (NM-Criminal case) by email: mocktrial@civicvalues.org
- Order the 2013 championship round DVD 2013 (IN-Civil case) by email skroberts@inmocktrial.com
- Order the 2014 championship round DVD 2014 (WI-Civil case) by email kwilcox@wisbar.org

National High School Mock Trial is looking for a 2018 host!

Have you ever considered hosting? Now's your chance to be the national host in 2018!
Contact Gordon Widenhouse for more information
mgwidenhouse@yahoo.com



Mandatory State Coordinators Survey and Membership Dues

As a reminder, in order to be eligible to participate at Nationals, each state must:

- 1) Complete the National Coordinator's Survey by April 15^h (The survey will be emailed to coordinators in early 2015)
- and
- 2) Pay a \$250 membership fee, due January 15th. The membership fee is separate and in addition to a team's \$500 tournament fee due April 22nd.

The funds collected through the membership fee have been earmarked specifically for costs borne by NHSMTC, Inc. for hosting or aiding in the hosting of the national championship. See Invoice at the end of the newsletter.



DUES REMINDER

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL CHAMPIONSHIP MEMBERSHIP

Membership dues of \$250 are due **January 15th** from each participating mock trial program. Please note the membership dues are separate and in addition to your state champion team's \$500 tournament registration fee. The tournament registration fee is due April 22nd, and made payable to Carolina Center for Civic Education (CCCE) (<http://ncmocktrial.org/nationals2015>). Both fees are required for participation in the tournament.

Checks for the MEMBERSHIP DUES should be made payable to NHSMTC, Inc. and mailed to:

NHSMTC, Inc.
Paul Kaufman, Treasurer
220 E. Homestead Ave
Collingswood, NJ 08108

Email: Paul.Kaufman2@usdoj.gov

Return payment with the form below:

State/Territory/Country: _____

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

**Please note: This is your contact information that will appear in the NHSMTC directory.*



NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Dewain Fox, NHSMTTC Board Chair
Sherman & Howard L.L.C.
201 E. Washington St.
Suite 800
Phoenix, AZ 85004-2327E-mail:
dfox@shermanhoward.com

2014 Board of Directors

David M. Berlin (At-large—New Mexico)
Rebecca Britton (At-large—North Carolina)
Cynthia Cothran (At-large—South Carolina)
Pete Jones (At-large—Delaware)
Paul Kauffman (At-large—Pennsylvania)
Susan Nusall (Board Host Director—Arizona)
Emily R. Reilly (At-large—Wisconsin)
Carey Shoufler (HD—Idaho)
Hon. Lyle E. Strom (At-large—Nebraska)
Ann Marie Waldron (HD—Indiana)
Laura Wesley (At-large—California)
John Wheeler (At-large—Iowa)
M. Gordon Widenhouse, Jr. (HD—North Carolina)
Katie Wilcox (HD-Wisconsin)

2014 Non-Board Committee Members

Articles & By-Laws Committee

Marylyn Cover (OR)
Annette Pitts (FL)

Case

Jonathan Grode (PA)

Competition Operations Committee

Sue Johnson (NC)

Information Technology

Michael Nixon (GA)

Newsletter

Kyle Skinner (NH)

Nominating Committee

Stacy Rieke (GA)

Public Relations Committee

Bob Noel (LA)

Ann Marie Waldron (IN)

Site Selection Committee

Doris Huffman (NE)

**For a complete list of assignments, visit our website nationalmocktrial.org*

MISSION

The mission of the National High School Mock Trial Championship, Inc. is to promote an understanding and appreciation of the American judicial system through academic competitions and other endeavors for students.

VOLUNTEER

Judging Panel Volunteers Needed for the 2015 National Tournament in Raleigh!

To volunteer visit the web site [NHSMTCVolunteer](http://NHSMTCVolunteer.com)

CONNECT

Connect with NHSMTTC on social media

[Facebook](#)
[Twitter](#)