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High School **MOCK TRIAL**
SOUTH CAROLINA BAR
COMPETITION APPLICATION



The (SC) Bar's LRE mock trial program provides students with an opportunity to learn about lawyers and the court system in a very positive way. They learn about respect for the legal system and to respect the judges and one another in the courtroom. They learn to think on their feet. They learn that it is difficult to master the facts and the law, and that the practice of law is hard work."—High School Mock Trial Attorney Coach

The South Carolina Bar Law Related Education (LRE) Division is inviting public, private and home schools throughout the state to participate in the 2015 High School Mock Trial Competition. Each participating school will enter a team comprised of at least 6-14 students and sponsored by a teacher volunteer. The LRE Division will help locate attorney coaches to assist the team in preparing the case, if needed. The LRE Division posts the fictitious case online, and each team will try both a Prosecution/Plaintiff and Defense argument using the same case.

The goals of this program are to educate students about the American judicial system and the fundamentals of litigation. Another objective is to increase cooperation, respect and support between the community and the legal profession. Through participation in the Mock Trial program students will sharpen their basic skills such as listening, speaking, writing, reading and analyzing. The goal of the Mock Trial program is not to win for the sake of winning, but to learn and practice the meaning of good citizenship in a democracy through participation in our legal system. All students who participate in the Mock Trial competition are winners. High School Mock Trial is correlated to South Carolina's English language arts and social studies standards for grades 9-12, which are accessible at www.sctbar.org/lre.

FREE TRAINING! There is an in-person Mock Trial training for new teacher and attorney coaches. If unable to attend, check out the entire training broken down into 11 mini-webinars at the link below.

FREE WEB RESOURCES! The link below has an abundance of resources to include correlations, competition information, a discussion forum, dates, the case, a glossary, diagrams, checklists, and more!

FREE ON-LINE VIDEOS! The link below also has videos for coaches and students. Videos include a competition critique video, a video on Rule 803 and Hearsay Exceptions, a Hearsay Exceptions Song, a promotional video to use for recruitment, what scoring judges look for when judging, and an entire Mock Trial round broken into mini-segments.

FREE COACHES MANUAL! The link below also provides access to a Coaches Manual for Teachers and Attorney Coaches. It is a great reference filled with suggestions and tools for coaches of all experience levels. The manual includes lesson plans, handouts, activities, and more.

www.sctbar.org/lre/hsmt



South Carolina
BAR FOUNDATION
Lawyers Sustaining Justice

The High School Mock Trial competition is sponsored by the South Carolina Bar Law Related Education (LRE) Division and is supported by the South Carolina Bar and an IOLTA grant from and the South Carolina Bar Foundation. For more information about this program, please contact Cynthia H. Cothran at (803) 252-5139 or ccoathan@sctbar.org.

HOW TO ENTER



REGISTRATION INFORMATION. Complete and return the attached registration form for each team registering (maximum two teams). If registering more than one team, complete a separate registration form for each team. Names of actual students competing on the team are not needed until the Code of Ethical Conduct form/School Information Sheet is due, which is not until January 14, 2015.

ALL REGISTRATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 10, 2014, TO AVOID A LATE FEE.

Late registrations received between October 11 and October 31, 2014, require a \$50 late registration fee for each team registered.

REGISTRATION FEE—REGIONALS. With each registration, enclose payment for the **non-refundable** \$100 registration fee per team. Payment can be in the form of check or credit card. Checks should be made payable to the SC Bar LRE Division. If paying by credit card, call with credit card information. If paying by credit card, call with credit card information. If payment is requested through a purchase order, indicate on the registration form that a purchase order was requested and payment is forthcoming. If paid with a purchase order, each school should submit a copy of the purchase order. A registration form may be turned in without payment in order to make the registration deadline without a penalty fee. All registration fees are due no later than December 1, 2014, for the team(s) to compete in the 2015 regional competitions.

REGISTRATION FEE—STATE. Once a school has been confirmed that their team will be advancing to the 2015 State High School Mock Trial competition, a separate registration fee of \$150 will be due two days **prior** to the competition date. Payment can be in the form of check or credit card.

RULE ON REGISTERING TWO TEAMS. A school may submit two teams with the stipulation that one team must be designated as the “drop” team in the event that capacity is exceeded in a given region. One team is registered as “Team-A” and the drop team is registered as “Team-B.” Notification of exceeding capacity will be made by **November 21, 2014**. In the event there is more than one school submitting two teams in a region exceeding capacity, the school that registered their second team last will be the first to drop the second team and/or consolidate its two teams. If a team is dropped by the S.C. Bar, that team’s registration fee will be refunded for its second team. (This is the only exception on returning a team’s registration fee.)

COMPETITION FORMAT. Each team at the regional competition will ideally compete in three rounds consisting of trying the Prosecution/Plaintiff and Defense side. The competition has been divided into five regional competitions, with a limited number of teams from each regional competition advancing to the state competition. Only one team per school may advance from regionals to the state competition. Each team at the state competition will compete in four rounds of competition prior to the championship round. Regional competitions are scheduled for Saturday, February 28, 2015. The state competition will take place the afternoon and evening of Friday, March 13, 2015, and Saturday, March 14, 2015, in Columbia or Lexington. Lunch will not be provided at either level of competition. Teams are to bring prepared lunches for their team and guests to the competitions.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CASE MATERIALS. Competition rules and modified rules of evidence will be released August 2014, on the Bar’s website. The case materials will be posted on the S.C. Bar’s website (www.sctbar.org/lre) October 31, 2014, by 5 p.m. The electronic materi-

als will be available as one entire document and broken down by each individual section. **In addition, they will be available in Nook, Kindle, iPad and other e-reader device formats.** Hard copies of the case materials will not be available for purchase. A forum discussion board will be set up for all Mock Trial teachers, attorney coaches and students who have Internet access at <http://forum.sctbar.org/hsmt>. Teams interested in scrimmaging may post scrimmage requests on the forum. Questions concerning the 2015 Mock Trial competition should be submitted in writing via U.S. mail, forum, fax or e-mail. **All** questions and answers will be posted to the forum. **No** questions will be answered by telephone. The forum closes seven business days prior to each competition day.

NEW—HONOR CORDS. High school seniors may now be recognized with purple honor cords at their graduation at the low price of \$4 per cord. Cords can be purchased on the team registration page and are provided to lead teacher coaches at the regional competition.

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS. LRE offers many forms of recognition for implementation of S.C. Bar LRE programs. Schools that implement LRE programs are eligible for \$2,500 in non-designated funds; teachers are eligible for \$500 in non-designated funds; individuals such as SROs, administrators, and non-teachers are eligible for LRE Citizen of the Year Awards in the amount of \$500 in non-designated funds; attorneys can be nominated for Lawyer of the Year and recognized in front of their peers; and high school seniors may apply for \$500 scholarships as non-designated funds to apply toward higher education. Application and nomination forms for all of these awards are available online. The deadline to submit nominations and applications is March 18, 2015. Don’t wait until the last week to start preparing your scholarship packet. Start preparing early to ensure the deadline is met. Questions about scholarships and awards can be directed to Donald Lanier at dlanier@sctbar.org or call (803) 252-5139.

ATTORNEY COACH. It is strongly encouraged that each team have an attorney coach to assist with the mechanics of a trial and to provide a better understanding of the law and its application. Schools may look for an attorney coach from a previous year; among PTA members, alumni or other volunteers; or within the community. Attorney coaches should be notified that they receive pro bono credit for the hours that they volunteer with a school. If an attorney coach cannot be obtained through the suggested outlets, the S.C. Bar can help with the search. However, there is no guarantee that an attorney coach can be secured.

WITHDRAWAL FROM THE COMPETITION. In the event that it becomes necessary for a team to withdraw from the competition, the team must inform the state coordinator immediately, but **no later than Friday, January 9, 2015**, with submission of a withdrawal form signed by the lead teacher and school principal. The form is included in the case materials. Failure to inform the state coordinator will cause extreme hardship to the other schools assigned to the team’s district and to the other individuals who have volunteered their time to assist with the competition. **Absent extenuating circumstances, if a team fails to appear at a competition without prior notification and/or withdrawing after the drop deadline, the team will be subject to a one-year suspension from the competition. Please note that registration fees are non-refundable.**

2015 COMPETITION DATES

Regional Competitions
February 28
N. Charleston, Columbia, Conway, Greenville
and Lexington

State Competition
March 13-14
Columbia or Lexington

National Competition
May 14-17
Raleigh, North Carolina

COMPETITION DATES ARE NOT SUBJECT TO CHANGE!



2015

MOCK TRIAL Courtroom Sketch Artist and Journalist Competition

The S.C. Bar Law Related Education (LRE) Division has incorporated two competition elements into the Mock Trial program to include a Courtroom Sketch Artist and Courtroom Journalist competition at the regional level only. Courtroom sketch artists and journalists are subject to all Mock Trial rules, restrictions and eligibility requirements. They will compete solely on their own efforts and will **NOT** be considered as part of their school's Mock Trial team participation.

Courtroom Sketch Artists will create sketches that depict actual courtroom scenes observed at the assigned regional competition. The courtroom sketch artists observe trials in which his/her school is competing at the regional level. Up to one sketch may be submitted at the conclusion of the competition day by each artist on white paper no smaller than 8.5 x 11 inches and no larger than 11 x 17 inches in black and white or pastel with any dry medium used. Sketches are submitted at the end of the competition day at the beginning of the closing assembly. Sketches will be judged on the following criteria: accuracy of proportion, realism, authenticity with regard to traditional courtroom sketching, figure/ground relationship, and use of contrast. All submissions become the property of the S.C. Bar and may be used by the LRE Division for any purpose it deems appropriate, including but not limited to reproduction and dissemination.

Courtroom Journalists will type articles that describe the actual courtroom presentations observed at the assigned regional competition. Typed articles will be approved by the sponsoring teacher(s) and submitted electronically to the S.C. Bar no later than 5 p.m. the first Monday following the competition. Articles submitted are solely completed by the student competitor and may not be edited/alterd by any other source. The courtroom journalists observe trials in which his/her school is competing at the regional level. Article entries are submitted electronically with one inch margins throughout, double spaced and typed in 12 point Arial font. Laptops are not permitted in the courthouse. Articles will be judged on the following criteria: accuracy, clarity, objectivity, fairness, style, grammar and spelling. All submissions become the property of the S.C. Bar and may be used by the LRE Division for any purpose it deems appropriate, including but not limited to reproduction and dissemination.

REGISTERING SEPARATE FROM A MOCK TRIAL TEAM: Up to two students per category may compete from any high school (private or public) and/or home school even if a school does not have a Mock Trial team registered in the Mock Trial competition. If students register without a Mock Trial team, a teacher sponsor is required. Students and their sponsors will be randomly assigned to courtrooms throughout the day. Students and their sponsors must stay for a minimum of the first round. To register on a separate application, contact Cynthia H. Cothran at (803) 252-5139 or ccothran@scbar.org.

REGISTERING WITH A MOCK TRIAL TEAM: Up to two students per category from the same high school may register along with the registered Mock Trial team or home schooled. (See rule on team eligibility.) Teams do not have to register student participants in either category at the time of initially registering a team, but at the time the school submits their School Information Sheet with student names after recruitment/auditions are determined by the school. School Information Sheets are due to the S.C. Bar LRE Division by January 14, 2015. (Artists and journalists may not double as bailiffs, timekeepers or any other team role.) Students and their sponsors must stay for a minimum of the first round.

DECLARATION OF STATE CHAMPION: The student in each category with the highest score out of all four regions will be declared the state champion. The winner of the Courtroom Sketch Artist and Journalist competitions will be announced no later than five business days after the regional competition.



S.C. BAR

MOCK TRIAL Training Application

FREE TRAINING
& FREE VIDEO WITH TRAINING

SEPTEMBER 11, 2014

9 A.M.-5 P.M. COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

Training is limited to new Mock Trial teachers and attorney coaches. Experienced Mock Trial teachers and attorney coaches will be permitted to attend based on space availability.

Please type or print.

Name: _____ Position/Title: _____

School Name: _____

School Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Primary E-mail Address (required): _____

Secondary E-mail Address: _____

School Phone Number: (_____) _____ Cell Number (required): (_____) _____

REGISTRANTS' INFORMATION:

NAME	TITLE	YEARS OF MOCK TRIAL EXPERIENCE	E-MAIL	CELL #
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Fax registration form by August 29, 2014, to Marian Kirk at (803) 771-0419.

If you miss this training or would like a refresher, the training will be featured as video clips under the Mock Trial section on the LRE website at www.scbar.org/lre.

The training segments include: (In person on 9/11/14 or available as online webinar resources 24/7.)

- The Basics
- Objections, Hearsay and Impeachment
- Judging and Scoring
- New Teacher Coach Basics
- Trial Presentation
- Time Limits and Timekeeping
- Random Pairing and Powermatching
- Competition Forms
- Team Composition and Roles
- Dispute Settlement
- Preparing for Competition Day

Training Cancellation Policy: If an individual is confirmed in a training and does not show up or cancel within 48 hours of a training, it is our policy that this person will not be allowed to attend another LRE training for a period of one year.

**34TH ANNUAL SOUTH CAROLINA BAR
HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION**

Authorization Form

Our school is registering a Mock Trial team with the South Carolina Bar's High School Mock Trial competition. By signing this authorization form, we (principal and lead teacher coach) agree to abide by the rules of the Mock Trial competition as contained in the competition handbook. Should it become necessary to withdraw from the competition for any reason, I agree that I will inform the state coordinator **no later than January 9, 2015**.

As **principal**, I understand that the lead teacher coach signed off on this Authorization Form is directly responsible for the Mock Trial team. I understand that the lead teacher coach responsibilities and deadlines (indicated below) and understand that as principal, I will routinely follow-up with the lead teacher coach throughout the team's preparation. This will ensure the team is preparing the entire Mock Trial season as teams need much preparation, understanding, and rehearsal time. If at any time the lead teacher coach is replaced, the SC Bar will be notified immediately and an updated Authorization Form will be submitted.

As **lead teacher coach**, I understand that I am directly responsible in meeting all deadlines as to not jeopardize the team's eligibility and carrying out the duties of the lead teacher coach as stated as follows:

Deadlines to Meet:

- Registration Paperwork Due (without late fee)October 10, 2014
- Registration Paperwork Due (with \$50 late fee)October 31, 2014
- Registration Fee DueDecember 1, 2014
- Drop DeadlineJanuary 9, 2015
- Code of Ethical Conduct Form / School Information Sheet DueJanuary 14, 2015
- Respond with Conference Call Date Selection byFebruary 7, 2015
(Participate on conference callback selected dates/times—Feb. 20 10 a.m. or 3 p.m.)
- Respond with Final Team Confirmation.....Immediately

As lead teacher coach, I will fulfill the following responsibilities:

- Promote Mock Trial for purposes of recruiting students;
- Seek an attorney coach;
- Conduct auditions;
- Hold weekly meetings and practices;
- Work with the students to ensure they are prepared for sessions with the attorney coach;
- Complete, collect and submit necessary paperwork prior to deadlines;
- Meet with parents prior to the competition;
- Arrange travel to competition(s);
- Monitor forum discussions for updates to the case, rules, and/or competition;
- Respond to emails from the SC Bar in a timely manner not to exceed 4 days from receipt; and
- Remain in communication with the SC Bar and the authorizing administrator on the status of the team's progress throughout the Mock Trial season.

We understand that as the lead teacher coach and principal, that our failure to inform the state coordinator promptly of the withdrawal of our school from the competition will result in an extreme hardship to the other schools in our region and state as a whole, as well as to the other individuals who have volunteered their time to assist with this effort. We also understand that, absent extenuating circumstances, our team's failure to appear at the regional and/or state competition without prior notice by the drop deadline of January 9, 2015, to the state coordinator will result in a one-year suspension from the competition. We further agree that our team will participate in each round of the competition. We also understand that refusal to advance, once confirmed to the state and/or national competition may result in sanctions against our school, up to and including a permanent ban from the competition.

School Name: _____

Lead Teacher Coach Name: _____

Lead Teacher Coach E-mail Address: _____ Cell Phone Number: (_____) _____

Lead Teacher Coach's Signature _____ Date _____

Principal's Name: _____

Principal's E-mail Address: _____ Direct Phone Number: (_____) _____

Principal's Signature _____ Date _____

This form must be accompanied with payment. Payment is non-refundable.

Send completed form, signed administration authorization form and payment to:

South Carolina Bar LRE Division • P.O. Box 608 • Columbia, SC 29202-0608

(803) 252-5139 • Fax: (803) 771-0419



34TH ANNUAL SOUTH CAROLINA BAR HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION

Registration Form

Please supply the following information to register your team for the 2015 Mock Trial Competition.
The registration deadline is October 10, 2014 (late registration deadline with late fee is October 31, 2014).
Please type or print.

Designated Team (Team A) **Drop Team (Team B)—8 person minimum on Team A (New Rule 3.3)**

School Name: _____ Grade Levels at School: _____

County: _____ School Phone Number: (____) _____

School Address (no P.O. boxes): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Teacher/Sponsor (Main Contact): _____

Planning Period Hours: (First Semester) _____ (Second semester) _____

Direct Phone Number: (____) _____ Ext: _____ E-mail: _____

Cell Phone Number: (____) _____ School Fax Number: (____) _____

Additional Teachers/Sponsors : _____ E-mail: _____

_____ E-mail: _____

Department Chair Information:

English Department Chair Name: _____ E-mail: _____

Social Studies Department Chair Name: _____ E-mail: _____

Art Department Chair Name: _____ E-mail: _____

Name of Local Newspaper: _____

Name of Feeder Middle School(s): _____

Attorney/Coach (If more than one, please list names on reverse side.): _____ Bar# _____

Name of Firm/Practice: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: (____) _____ E-mail Address: _____

_____ **Check here if school will be promoting the courtroom sketch artist and courtroom journalist components.**

_____ **Check here if school does not have an attorney/coach at this time and would like assistance in locating one.**

_____ **Check here if school is seeking an attorney/coach and will provide contact information shortly.**

_____ **Registration for one team (postmarked by October 10, 2014)** **\$100** _____

_____ **Registration for second team (postmarked by October 10, 2014)** **\$100** _____

_____ **Late registraton fee (\$50 per team) (October 11 – 31, 2014)** **\$50** _____

_____ **Honor Cords at \$4 each (distributed at regionals)** **\$4 each** _____

_____ **Sample Mock Trial Video at \$10 per copy (filmed 2012) *free if attend training*** **\$10 each** _____

Total Due: _____

Mode of Payment:

ChecksMake checks payable to S.C. Bar LRE Division

Purchase Order Submitted with Check to Follow (Separate checks for each school. Please do not combine payment for individual schools within a school district.

Credit Card, called into Donald Lanier (803) 252-5139

***A copy of the school's purchase order may be submitted with the registration application, with check to follow. The registration fee must be paid in full no later than December 1, 2014.*

****ATTACH AUTHORIZATION FORM****

**The authorization form should be submitted at the same time of
submitting the team registration form.**

Send completed form, signed administration authorization form and payment to:

South Carolina Bar LRE Division • P.O. Box 608 • Columbia, SC 29202-0608

(803) 252-5139 • Fax: (803) 771-0419