SOUTH CAROLINA BAR MOCK TRIAL

2012/13 Additional Information for Teachers, Attorneys, Students and Parents

(Section 4 of 4)

Additional Information for Teachers, Attorneys, Students and Parents:

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AWARDS and SCHOLARSHIPS

The SC Bar Law Related Education (LRE) Division offers many forms of recognition. Each year the following awards and scholarships applications are available NOW!

LRE Middle and High School of the Year: $2,500

One middle school and one high school are selected as the Law Related Education (LRE) School of the Year. Winners of the LRE middle school and high school of the year are chosen based on their implementation of LRE curricula and/or programs and commitment to the principles of LRE. Each school receives an award of $2,500 as non-designated funds. The plaque and check will be presented at the school.

LRE Middle and High Teacher of the Year: $500

Each year, beginning in 2005, one middle school and one high school teacher are selected as the LRE Teacher of the Year chosen on the same criteria for LRE School of the Year. Applicants can be nominated or self-nominated. Each teacher receives an award of $500 as non-designated funds. The plaque and check will be presented at the school to the teacher.

LRE Citizen of the Year: $500

Each year, a South Carolina citizen who has either been nominated or self-nominated is awarded with LRE Citizen of the Year Award. The recipient of this award will be one who has fostered public understanding of the values of our legal and judicial system; stimulated a deeper sense of individual responsibility by helping students recognize their legal duties and rights; encouraged and supported effective LRE programs; and increased communication among students, educators, and those working in the legal system. The LRE Citizen of the Year will receive an award of $500 as non-designated funds. The plaque and the check will be presented at the place of employment.

LRE Lawyer of the Year:

Each year, a member of the South Carolina Bar who has either been nominated or self-nominated is awarded with the honor of LRE Lawyer of the Year Award. Applicants can be nominated or self-nominated. The recipient of this award will be one who has fostered public understanding of the values of our legal and judicial system; stimulated a deeper sense of individual responsibility by helping students recognize their legal duties and rights; encouraged and supported effective LRE programs; and increased communication among students, educators and those working in the legal system. The LRE Lawyer of the Year will be recognized at the Board of Governors meeting in May in front of his or her peers.

Awards and Scholarships Schedule

Applications Released – Available Now!
Application Deadline – March 20, 2013 (post marked date)
Award Letters – April 18, 2013
Presentation of Awards – May 2013

Questions about scholarships and awards can be forwarded to Donald Lanier at dlanier@scbar.org or contacted at (803) 252-5139.

To download applications/nomination forms, visit the website at www.scbar.org/lre.

South Carolina Bar Mock Trial Mentor Program

LRE has established a Mentor Program through which new (less than one year of experience) and experienced coaches will be paired during the Mock Trial year. The Mentor Program is for attorney coaches and teacher coaches. Upon receipt of applications, a list will be made so that available mentors and/or new coaches may contact one another.

Experienced

❑ Teacher Coach ❑ Attorney Coach

Name:_____ Years of Mock Trial Experience: _____

School/Law Firm Name: _____

Business Phone Number: (____) _____ Cell Number: (____) _____

Business Address (no P.O. Boxes): _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail #1: _____ E-mail #2: _____

Best Method of Contact:_____ Best Time to Contact: _____

Region(s) Your Team has Competed:
❑ Lowcountry (Charleston) ❑ Midlands (Columbia) ❑ Coastal (Conway) ❑ Piedmont (Greenville)

Preferred Location of New Mentee: ❑ Anywhere in the state ❑ Any region but my own ❑ My region only

Preferred School Level: ❑ Middle School ❑ High School ❑ Either

Comments/Notes:

New

❑ Teacher Coach ❑ Attorney Coach

Name:_____ Years of Mock Trial Experience: _____

School/Law Firm Name: _____

Business Phone Number: (____) _____ Cell Number: (____) _____

Business Address (no P.O. Boxes): _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail #1: _____ E-mail #2: _____

Best Method of Contact:_____ Best Time to Contact: _____

Mock Trial Experience:
❑ None, brand new to Mock Trial

❑ Watched a Mock Trial Round (in person or video)

❑ Helped some with a previous mock trial team at _____ School

❑ Participated in Mock Trial as a student at _____ in the state of _____

❑ Parent of a Mock Trial student at _____ School

Comments/Notes:

To participate in the Mentor Program, send completed form by September 28, 2012.
This form can be faxed to (803) 771-0419 or mailed with the competition registration form to:
South Carolina Bar LRE Division, P.O. Box 608, Columbia, SC 29202-0608
Questions? Contact Cynthia H. Cothran at (803) 252-5139 or ccothran@scbar.org.

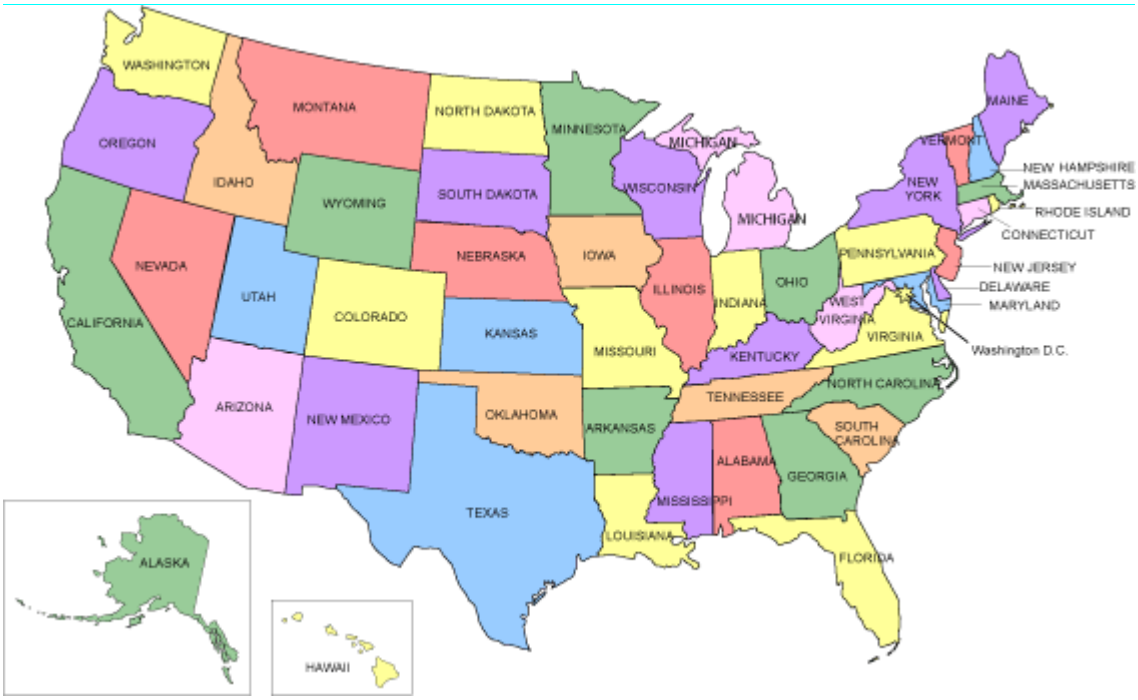
COLLEGIATE MOCK TRIAL PARTICIPATION

(Nationwide)

Interested in Mock Trial beyond high school?

Because so many colleges offer Mock Trial, LRE has a new edition to the Web site where you can click on which state you are interested in with a listing of colleges for each state.

Visit…….www.scbar.org/lre (go to the High School Mock Trial Section)



What is the difference between High School Mock Trial and Collegiate Mock Trial?

High School Mock Trial programs do not allow teams to choose which witnesses they call. Case-writers create six witnesses and specify which three are for the Defense and which three are for the Prosecution/Plaintiff. In college, the case-writers develop somewhere around ten different witnesses and allow each side to choose which three of these witnesses they will call in the minutes before a trial. With this set-up, opposing sides can strategize to “steal” the witnesses that their competitor may want. For this reason, every team needs extensive back-up plans and a lot of improvisational ability. Thinking on your feet is one of the best parts of Mock Trial.

How people perform as witnesses also differs from high school to college. The High School Mock Trial program has regulations that prohibit witnesses from using costumes. In college, not only do these regulations not exist, but it is almost a requirement that every witness transform into a character that the presiding judge will remember and like to include accents, costumes, and one-liners make witnesses entertaining and fun to play.

2012
High School Mock Trial Participation
(Statewide)

Here is a list of high schools that competed in 2012.

Coastal Region (Conway, SC)	Lowcountry Region (Charleston, SC)
Carolina Forest High School	Beaufort High
Early College High School	Berkeley High
Governor's Sch. For Science & Mathematics	Colleton Preparatory Academy
Johnsonville High	Fort Dorchester High
Myrtle Beach High	Hilton Head Christian Academy
North Myrtle Beach High	Wando High School
Socastee High	
Wilson High	

Midlands Region (Lexington, SC)	Piedmont Region (Greenville, SC)
Blythewood High	Bob Jones Academy
Chapin High	Christ Church Episcopal
Dreher High	Fort Mill High
Dutch Fork High	Greenville High
Irmo High	Greenwood High
Lexington High	JL Mann High
Mid-Carolina High	Montessori High School of Anderson
North August High	Nation Ford High
Saint Francis Xavier High	Strom Thurmond High
Spring Valley High	Wade Hampton High
	Westminster Catawba Christian

Please note that this list is last year's participants. Regional assignments can vary from year to year based on participation.

<u>Regional assignments for the current High School Mock Trial participants are not released until late January 2013.</u>

2011
Middle School Mock Trial Participation
(Statewide)

Here is a list of middle schools that competed in 2011.

Coastal Region
(Conway, SC)

Black Water Middle
Forestbrook Middle
Hemingway Middle
Johnsonville Middle
Myrtle Beach Middle
North Myrtle Beach Middle
Ocean Bay Middle
St. Anne Catholic
St. Anthony Catholic
St. James Middle
Westview Middle
Whittemore Park Middle
Williams Middle

Lowcountry Region
(Charleston, SC)

Hanahan Middle
Marrington Middle

(These schools participated in the 2011 Coastal Regional Competition due to small number of teams in the Lowcountry Region.)

Midlands Region
(Columbia, SC)

Blythewood Middle
Ctr. for Accelerated Preparation
Crayton Middle
Dent Middle
Dutch Fork Middle
E.L. Wright Middle
Hammond
Hand Middle
Heathwood Hall Middle
Irmo Middle
Lexington Middle
Longleaf Middle
Saint Andrews Middle
Saint Joseph
Schofield Middle
W.A. Perry Middle

Piedmont Region
(Greenville, SC)

Greenville Middle Academy
Johnston-Edgefield Trenton Middle
Leavelle McCampbell Middle
Merriwether Middle
Spartanburg Day School
Springfield Middle

Please note that this list is last year's participants. Regional assignments can vary from year to year based on participation.

Regional assignments for the current Middle School Mock Trial participants are not released until early October 2012.

Elementary Mock Trial is an excellent way to introduce the concepts of justice and the judiciary system through the use of fairy tale Mock Trials. Do you remember the stories of Goldilocks, Paul Bunyan, The Three Little Pigs, and many others? The SC Bar supplies elementary teachers case materials created by the American Bar Association and the Maine State Bar Association. Through these fairy tale cases, students can learn about the courts in an interactive fashion.

The fairy tale cases are typically played out by upper elementary student to an audience of primary grade students. There are several roles in each case to include a presiding judge, a bailiff, and attorneys and witnesses for both sides. The SC Bar LRE Division provides puppets for all the roles including jurors. The case materials and the use of the puppets are available on a "loan basis" for FREE.

Once the students are comfortable with their roles, a presentation date can be arranged with the SC Bar LRE Division. A member of the LRE Division will come and film the presentation for the school to keep. A presentation date can be scheduled with the SC Bar LRE Division.

Elementary Mock Trial Cases

The State v. Jack
B.B. Wolf v. Curly Pig
The Emperor v. Swin Del
Claude v. The Beast
Cinderella v. The Estate of Padre Mia Tremaine
State of Italia v. Gepetto
The State v. Jack
The State v. Delphinia Rose Sweetpea
United States v. Paul Bunyan
The Queen v. Snow White
Village of Sheepfold v. Wolfcryer

Effectiveness

By incorporating Mock Trial in elementary schools, students can learn about the basis of our American judicial system and the mechanics of litigation in the simplest form. In addition, students are encouraged to learn and understand the meaning of good citizenship in a democracy. Mock trial is exciting to share in any classroom, and it encourages participation, critical thinking, speaking skills, and teamwork. This program also serves to increase cooperation, respect, and support between the community and the legal profession.

Deposit / Shipping

While everything is FREE, there is a $50 deposit to use the puppets that will be returned upon receipt of the puppets to the SC Bar. There is also a non-refundable $1 per puppet shipping fee.

Order Form / Additional Information

Visit www.scbar.org/lre to view pictures of the puppets with each case, the request form, and more. To learn more about the Elementary School Mock Trial program, contact Cynthia H. Cothran at (803) 252-5139 or ccothran@scbar.org.

TALENT RELEASE FORM EXPLANATION

The next page has the talent release form for all students, sponsoring teachers, and attorney coaches to complete prior to registration on the day of the competition.

The talent release form signifies that the SC Bar has been given permission to use any film or video taken at the competitions to be used for marketing and training tools, and for the purpose of taking pictures to use as examples during trainings, marketing efforts and press releases. All pictures used will be portrayed in a positive manner.

Should a team give permission to the opposing team to video tape, then they have permission.

Should a team not have all of their signed talent releases and there are reasons for this, please instruct your students to answer that they do not approve videotaping when asked by the opposing team to film.

TALENT RELEASE FORM

FOR VALUABLE CONSIDERATION, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, I hereby irrevocably grant to the South Carolina Bar, its successors and assigns, and parties authorized by the South Carolina Bar, for any purpose(s) whatsoever, the right to photograph and record any or all of my appearance(s) or performance(s) in connection with the production of **Mock Trial**; to reproduce such photographs and recordings or any part of them by any method; to use, broadcast and/or publish such photographs and recordings or any part of them by any method; to use my name, no name, or a fictitious name in connection with such photographs and recordings or any part of them; and to circulate, distribute, sell, and/or lease such photographs and recordings or any part of them, or license others to do so as long as pictures taken are to be only used in a positive manner. Any rights granted in the immediately preceding sentence shall also extend to any advertising or other material in connection with the Production.

_____'s (student, teacher, or attorney coach's name) appearance(s) or performance(s) in the Production is/are not the result of pressure or forced participation. No representations of any kind have been made to me. I release the South Carolina Bar, it successors and assigns, to any parties authorized by the South Carolina Bar to perform the acts set forth in the paragraph above, from any and all claims for damages for libel, slander, invasion of the right of privacy, or any other claims based on, arising out of, or connected with the Production.

I hereby waive any right to inspect or approve the Production, at any stage of its development, and any other matter or material relating to the Production. I agree that the control of, title to, any right of copyright of the Production or any part of the Production, including any copies thereof, and any other matter relating to the Production, shall be owned exclusively and completely by the South Carolina Bar, its successors and/or assigns.

I also agree that I will not disclose, sell, give, assign, furnish, distribute, or otherwise make available any information, data or materials concerning the South Carolina Bar, its business, products, customers or operations without the express written consent of the South Carolina Bar. This confidentiality obligation shall apply now and in the future, but shall not apply to information, which is or becomes public through no fault of mine.

Finally as the legal guardian, I hereby have my signature below.

Parent / Guardian Name (printed):_____

School Name:_____

Year Student Anticipates Graduating High School:_____

Guardian's Name (printed) *if applicable*:_____

Home Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code:_____

Signature:_____ **Date:**_____

Witness Signature:_____ **Date:**_____

SC Bar Law Related Education

TEACHER TIME TRACKING FORM

SC Bar Law Related Education Division appreciates all of your time and dedication to the Mock Trial program. We know your students and their parents appreciate your commitment to the team and your school would not be able to participate in Mock Trial competitions without great teachers like you.

As a teacher sponsoring or assisting with a Mock Trial Team, LRE would like to show our appreciation to you with a participation certificate with the number of hours that you have committed to the program.

This form will help you keep track of the time you commit to the study, practice and the hours on the day of the competition. At the end of the competition season, total all the time that you have committed and have your principal sign the form. Upon receipt in the LRE office, you will receive a certificate approximately 30 days after the state competition noting your hours of commitment.

Thank you for all that you do to make Mock Trial a successful program.

Please return this form to: South Carolina Bar / LRE Division
P.O. Box 608, Columbia, SC 29202-0608 or FAX: 803.771.0419

PLEASE COMPLETE WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE STATE COMPETITION

Please Print

Teacher Name: _____
First Last

School Name: _____

School Address: _____

Phone Number: (_____)_____ **E-Mail:**_____
(Best Contact #)

HOURS COMMITTED: _____(Tracking Chart on the Back)

❒ **Middle School Mock Trial Competition Time Frame:**_____**/Year:**_____

❒ **High School Mock Trial Competition Time Frame:** _____**/Year:**_____

❒ **National Mock Trial Competition Time Frame:** _____**/Year:**_____

Teacher: I certify that the hours reflected on this form are the best reflection of the hours invested in the Mock Trial program.

_____
Teacher's Signature

School Principal: I certify that the teacher stated above conducted or assisted with a Mock Trial team at our school and the hours noted on this form are the best reflection of their time commitment.

_____
Principal's Signature

Printed Name:_____

Contact Number: **(_____)**_____

E-Mail Address:_____

HOURS TRACKING CHART FOR TEACHERS

(Hours for studying, practicing and competing should be included.)

Date	Brief Explanation	Hours
	TOTAL HOURS	

SOUTH CAROLINA BAR

PRO BONO FORM FOR ATTORNEYS

LAW RELATED EDUCATION

One of the purposes of the South Carolina Bar Pro Bono Program is to maintain a record of all **Pro Bono** work completed by Bar members. Please complete this form to account for your **volunteer hours** helping teachers and their students, and/or judging competitions in the various programs offered by **LRE**. In addition to recording your hours, we would like to show our appreciation with a Pro Bono certificate for your volunteer participation.

We appreciate your assistance in this important tabulation of **Pro Bono** work done around the state. Please return this form to:

South Carolina Bar
LRE Division
P.O. Box 608
Columbia, S. C. 29202-0608
Fax #: 803-771-0419

MUST BE COMPLETED BY JANUARY 15TH OF THE FOLLOWING YEAR:

Attorney Name:_____
First Middle Initial Last

Bar Number:_____

Firm/Business Address: _____

Attorney Address:_____

Attorney (e-mail address)_____

Attorney Phone#: _____ **Fax#:** _____

HOURS VOLUNTEERED _____ **Hours**
(Tracking sheet on the back)

S. C. Bar Pro Bono \LRE

Event: _____

Date of Participation:_____

PRO BONO HOURS
TRACKING SHEET FOR ATTORNEYS

DATE	BRIEF EXPLANATION	HOURS
	TOTAL	

WHAT PARENTS AND VISITORS SHOULD KNOW

- Plan to meet with your student's teacher coach to find out about practice schedules, transportation to/from the competition, snacks for practices, snacks/lunch for the competition, dress attire for each student, travel plans, where to meet for the competition, competition schedule, etc.

- Parents and visitors are welcome to attend the competitions. Teams will be provided a maximum number of 24 "visitor" badges to watch their respective teams. Competing students, teacher coach(s) and attorney coach(s) will have separate "team" badges. Guests cannot view any round without the matching visitor badges which will be noted with two coded letters, e.g. "AB." (The codes mean nothing. It is a system in place to keep the teams anonymous from the presiding judges, scoring judges, and opposing teams.) Parents and guests will receive visitor badges from the lead teacher coach after the lead teacher coach has registered the team on the day of the competition. All badges are expected to be returned at the end of the competition.

- The team's school, to the extent possible, is to be kept confidential from the scoring judges. Visitors are strongly encouraged not to wear or bring school names, logos, or colors on any items brought into the courtroom. Also, the teams and their visitors should only identify themselves by their assigned team codes for the competition, not by the school name.

- Seating may be limited in various courtrooms throughout the state. What this means for visitors is sharing of name tags may be required for everyone to be able to see their student. Visitors can share nametags by only having guests in the courtroom to watch either the Prosecution/Plaintiff OR Defense side depending on their student's performing side.

  For example, Johnny will only be performing for the Defense side, but the Prosecution/Plaintiff side is currently performing. Parents and visitors associated with Johnny would sit out this round if space were limited, so that parents and visitors of the students on the Prosecution/Plaintiff side could watch. The same courtesy should be extended when sides switch, should that courtroom present space constraints.

- Know that teachers will receive the order of the performing sides for the first round seven business days prior to the competition. This announcement should help parents and visitors know which round they can attend and better plan for space constraints. However, if teams drop out during the seven business days prior to the competition, agendas **WILL** change prior to the competition OR even on the morning of the competition should a team "no show." **The agenda is always subject to change.**

- All attendees, parents and visitors are asked to respect the arrival times, competition round times, breaks and lunch time by never being late. Students need to be in their respective courtrooms 15 minutes prior to each round. Many of the courthouses require security to operate the metal detectors for the competitions, which requires additional time for gaining access into the building. (The more pockets, purses, brief cases, bags, etc. that have to be examined, the longer the entry time.) It is suggested that the lead teacher coach have a bag for all things that students absolutely need to bring in the courthouse and the students bring nothing other than their notes. This will speed up entry into the courthouse.

- Should a parent or visitor arrive late, there will be staff to assist in finding the appropriate courtroom their school is assigned. However, entering or exiting the courtroom should only take place during transitional periods taking place in the courtroom. For example, enter when a witness is getting on or off of the witness stand and not during an opening, direct, cross, or closing. **It is highly suggested that each team have one person stand outside their courtroom and assist in making sure that late arrivals or people that leave during the trial only enter and exit during transitions. This will ensure that there is less distraction for the students during the trial.**

- An agenda with "approximate" times is provided to the lead teacher coach in advance and on the day of the competition to share with parents and visitors. Know that these times are "approximate" and that a round could end earlier or later than estimated, thus causing subsequent breaks, lunch, rounds and awards to be impacted by this shift in time either earlier or later. Even if the round a parent or visitors views ends "on time," all teams must wait to begin the next round until all teams have completed the same round.

- If a parent or visitor knows in advance that they are only coming to see the one round their student is performing in, plan to arrive 15-30 minutes prior to the "approximate" start time to ensure a seat in the courtroom as times are not "fixed" and can vary. Parents and visitors planning on arriving for only one round are strongly encouraged to leave their cell phone number with the lead teacher in case the agenda changes on the morning of the competition.

- Parents and visitors are not allowed to move around in the courtroom during a trial or participate in the trial in any way to include asking about remaining time, signaling, passing notes, raising disputes, or arguing a dispute on behalf of the student(s).

- It is strongly encouraged that cell phones are not brought to the courthouse and/or Mock Trial facility. Some courthouses prohibit the entrance of cell phones and they will be confiscated by security personnel. Should a cell phone be permitted into the courthouse, it is asked that all cell phones be turned off while in the courtroom.

- Video cameras may be used during the competition only with the consent of the host facility, the presiding judge AND with the consent of the opposing team. The presiding judge will ask for consent from both teams prior to beginning the trial. Flash pictures may NOT be taken during the competition at any time. (In the past, some teams have nominated one parent from a team to film all of the rounds and share the video with everyone on that team following the competition.)

- The SC Bar promotes each competition statewide and sends press releases to all media outlets. Look for promotion of each school's participation in the local newspaper close to the competition dates.

- Teams assigned to each regional competition are notified in advance in the event that there are an odd number of teams participating in a given regional competition that require a team to become a “bye” for each round. See information about a bye round in the rules section of the Mock Trial Competition Handbook.

- In general, there are very few, if any, restaurants within walking distance of the competition locations. It is strongly suggested that students stay on the competition grounds and parents and visitors either bring prepared food for lunch or opt for take-out in the area that is brought to the students.

- The length of the competition day will vary by region depending on the number of teams.

- The presiding judge will allow for a five (5) minute recess prior to the closing statements. Everyone behind the bar **CAN** leave the courtroom at this time, but may not communicate with any of the team members in front of the bar. All students in front of the bar are to remain in the courtroom in front of the bar with non-communication with anyone behind the bar. Students in front of the bar may talk amongst themselves.

- Any concerns, issues or feedback discussed with the Mock Trial regional and/or state coordinator is to be solely made by the lead teacher coach and/or the lead attorney coach. Any communication not from the lead teacher coach or attorney coach is considered to be in non-compliance and is subject to rule 3.9 (Communication with Mock Trial Coordinator and Rule 6.4 (Reporting a Rules Violation - Outside of the Bar). These rules are in place before, during, and after a competition.

- There is closing assembly at the end of the competition day and parents and visitors are welcome to attend. This is when the most effective attorney and most effective witness from each round nominated by the judges will be announced and the assembly will conclude with the announcement of the teams that will advance to the state competition. It is strongly encouraged that everyone is in the assigned meeting area for the closing assembly **at least thirty minutes prior** to the start time in case the awards preparation happens sooner than planned. Attorneys, teachers, students, parents, and visitors do not want to miss the closing assembly.

- Teams advance from each of the four regional competitions to the state competition. Should a parent’s or visitor’s student advance to the state competition, plan to meet as a team with the Mock Trial coordinator following the closing assembly to discuss the details of the state competition.

- Teachers and parents should block their calendar for the state competition in case their students advance to this level of competition, even if it is a first year team. Should a team be selected to advance to the state competition, it is very important that the team stays together when advancing to the next level of competition. Should the team not be able to advance to the state competition due to not enough team members available on that competition date, the school forfeits their slot.

What to Expect at Mock Trial Regional Competitions

The Basics: What is Mock Trial?

A *Mock Trial* is a pretend trial and may involve either civil or criminal cases, just like a real court. The Competition Rules and the Modified Rules of Evidence (both in the Mock Trial competition Handbook) are in place for Mock Trial. In Mock Trial the students present the case and act as the main characters in the courtroom. The purpose of Mock Trial is to learn about courtroom procedures and the people and rights involved with the legal system. It also teaches how to evaluate both sides of an issue and resolve conflicts in a nonviolent manner. A Mock Trial follows the trial procedure of the lower courts.

By incorporating Mock Trial, students learn about the basis of our American judicial system and the mechanics of litigation. In addition, students will be encouraged to learn and understand the meaning of good citizenship in a democracy. Mock Trial is exciting to share in any classroom or club and it easily stimulates participation, critical thinking, speaking skills, and teamwork. Mock Trial is available in many middle and high schools throughout the state. *(Graduating high school Mock Trial students are eligible for High School Mock Trial scholarships when continuing with higher education. Check out the Awards and Scholarship information at the beginning of this Additional Information Section in the Competition Handbook.)*

Registration on the Day of the Competition:

With the wonderful expansion of both Mock Trial programs there is an increased number of teams participating at each of the regional competitions, hence there are many people attempting to register at once to include teachers, students, attorney coaches, proud parents, visitors, and attorney volunteers. To reduce congestion, the sponsoring lead teacher coach is asked to have the school's entire team wait outside while the lead teacher (only) registers the team.

Competition team members, coaches, and attorney volunteers have first priority when going through the security check points. All other observers should stay to the rear of the security lines and allow competition participants through first. Students who arrive individually are asked to wait with their parents, guardian, teacher and/or attorney coach until the remainder of their team arrives, preferably outside of the court house. (If it is too cold or raining, schools will be directed to a welcome area to wait for further instructions.) **Teams will be assigned staggered arrival times to increase efficiency in getting through courthouse security and registration. Teams will be provided their expected arrival time seven days prior to the competition day.**

Once the Mock Trial coordinator receives the needed information from the lead teacher coach, the talent release forms and the official team rosters (found on the Web site), as well as the lead teacher's cell phone number (cell phones are on vibrate) to contact teachers within the building in case of an emergency, teams will be provided with a registration packet. The red registration bag provided at registration will include an agenda, noteworthy information, extra time sheets, practice scoresheets and directions, certificates for teachers and students, teacher evaluations, and name badges for team members and visitors. The red registration bag is to be returned to the Mock Trial Coordinator at the end of the competition as a checkout procedure with the completed evaluations and the students/teacher coded name tags, visitor badges, file folders with any unused papers, and name badges. **Announcements at the awards ceremony will begin after all the red registration bags have been collected.**

Please bring:

- Two (2) copies of Team Roster Form for regional and state competitions.
- Singed Talent Release Forms *(paper clipped – not in a separate envelope),* if not mailed ahead of time.
- A timekeeper with **Two (2) Stopwatches**

Nametags:

There is a ***maximum*** number of 24 visitor badges allotted per team. Note that no one can view any event without the matching visitor badges. All team members and visitors are identified accordingly with their respective team badges. Students will have white pin-on name badges with two coded letters representing their team in an attempt to keep the school anonymous. The students' respective visitors, teacher coaches and attorney coaches will be assigned the same two coded letters, but with their respective titles (visitor, teacher coach, or attorney coach). ***Note that if there are more than 14 students for a high school team or 16 students for a middle school team, the remaining students will wear visitor badges and there are only 24 visitor badges allotted to a team. Visitors may only watch the team that matches their visitor badge. Announcements at the awards ceremony will begin after all name badges for teacher coaches, attorney coaches, students, and visitors have been collected.***

Welcome:

A welcome is given by the Mock Trial Coordinator to the lead teacher coaches. All remaining team coaches, students and visitors go to their assigned courtroom for the first round. Any questions about the day's events are asked at this time by the lead teacher coach.

Room Assignments:

Should a team become disqualified or fail to arrive to compete for an unforeseen circumstance; room assignments are subject to change and are announced as soon as possible.

Each trial has the following order of events:

- Teams find courtrooms and have fifteen minutes to prepare
- Teams complete practice scoresheets and distribute accordingly
- Teams find proper seating placement including timekeepers
- Plaintiff / Prosecution's Bailiff meets with presiding judge outside of the courtroom
- Scoring judges serving as the jury enter
- Bailiff announces the presiding judge
- Judge conducts welcome
- Scoring judges introduce themselves
- Both teams introduce themselves and swap rosters
- Opening statements from each side
- Bailiff swears in witnesses
- Direct / Cross Examinations
- 5 minute recess (only visitors can leave the courtroom – not competing students)
- Closing arguments from each side
- Judge asks teams to re-introduce themselves to the scoring judges
- Scoring jury leaves the room
- Any disputes are presented at this time to the presiding judge
- Teams nominate and present a most effective attorney and witness from the opposing side
- Scoring jury and judge give comments and feedback
- Trial is officially over
- Once the trial is officially over, the team quietly returns to the place indicated in the morning or remain in hallways very quiet as other trials may still be in progress. (Teams cannot go to their next assigned courtroom until fifteen minutes prior to the trial round for the sake of a trial may still be in process.)

Judging/Scoring:

Each trial has a presiding judge overseeing the trial and a minimum of two and a maximum of three people serving as the jury. Should there only be two judges serving as jury members, the presiding judge also scores the round so that every trial has three scoring judges. The presiding judges are members from the SC Bar who are professional judges and/or attorneys experienced with the Mock Trial program. The jury includes scoring judges that are members from the SC Bar who are professional attorneys, experienced high school Mock Trial teachers, and third year law students. The jury scores the trial using the Mock Trial scoresheet to determine how each team performs their knowledge and understanding of the case itself and the trial process, not guilt or innocence. **Scoresheets are mailed following the competition after they have been verified. Scoresheets will not be picked up in person, faxed, scanned or e-mailed.** The scoring jury also determines the most effective witness and most effective attorney from each round.

Introductions:

Once teams are in their respective courtrooms, students are asked to address the scoring jury and presiding judge providing only their names and roles in the competition (not their school) at the beginning of each round as well as at the end of the round. The re-introduction at the end of each round assists the scoring jury in awarding the most effective witness and the most effective attorney for each round.

Recess:

During the competition, a five minute recess is provided prior to the closing arguments. Competing teams are to remain in front of the bar and are not permitted to leave the courtroom. Competing teams may only have communication with their team members in front of the bar and no communication with anyone behind the bar including teacher coaches, attorney coaches, remaining team members not competing and/or visitors. **The only people permitted to leave the courtroom during the recess are the people behind the bar.** Any communication that takes place over the bar subjects that team to a strong point deduction or even disqualification for the team found in fault. It is asked that everyone that chooses to remain in the courtroom stay seated quietly to allow the students in front of the bar to regroup for the closing arguments. **This cannot be stressed enough.**

Communication:

Any communication that takes place over the bar subjects that team to a strong point deduction or even disqualification for the team found in fault. Parents, visitors, teacher coaches, and attorney coaches should refrain from all communication with team members unless directed by the presiding judge. Any communication with the state coordinator is to be made solely by the lead teacher coach and/or the lead attorney coach. Any communication not from the lead teacher coach or attorney coach is considered to be in non-compliance and is subject to Rule 3.9 (Communication with Mock Trial Coordinator) and Rule 6.4 (Reporting a Rules Violation - Outside of the Bar). This rule is in place before, during, and after a competition.

Photography/Videography:

Video cameras and non-flash photography may be used during the competition only with the consent of the presiding judge **AND** with the consent of the opposing team. Flash pictures may **NOT** be taken during the competition at any time. Upon approval of video cameras and non-flash photography, persons may take stationary pictures from the seated position. No movement in the courtroom for pictures is permitted.

Number of Rounds:

The length of the competition day will vary by region depending on the number of teams within each regional competition. If there is an **even number of teams** then there are three rounds with all teams competing in all three rounds. The first round is randomly paired. The second and third round will be powermatched, which will require additional time between rounds. With three rounds, a team is guaranteed to play the Plaintiff/Prosecution and Defense side once and one side will perform twice. There is no guarantee in the order of sides performed; however, if one side plays the first two rounds then it is guaranteed that the other side of your team will perform in the third round.

If there are **an odd number of teams** at a regional competition, please consult Rule 5.8 (Effect of Bye / Default). Teams may use this bye round time to prepare for their next competitive round. A round intended for a team to sit out cannot be attached to a lunch period. This mechanism is in place to ensure that all teams have equal treatment. Students found roaming the halls during a round that they are not competing in are subject to penalties, as respect and silence is needed for the other teams competing. Working diligently to keep the hallways as quiet as possible is greatly appreciated.

Lunch / Snacks:

Regions are notified in advance that there will be an undetermined start time for lunch, but that teams need to plan for lunch. In general, there are very few, *if any*, restaurants within walking distance of the competition location. It is strongly suggested that students stay on the competition grounds and parents/guardians either bring prepared food for lunch or go and retrieve lunches for the team. Should a

team request delivery, please notify SC Bar staff to help locate your team upon delivery. Remember when planning for this lunch, students need to be seated in their respective courtrooms *15 minutes prior* to each round beginning. The time for the round immediately following lunch is announced prior to being dismissed for lunch. **(There is no eating in classrooms or courtrooms.)**

Closing Assembly:

After competing in the rounds, everyone reports to the assigned location for the closing assembly. During the waiting period that can range from thirty minutes to an hour, staff is working diligently to tally up scoresheets and check scores for accuracy. **During the waiting period, teachers complete their evaluations and collect all name badges as the awards cannot be given out until each school submits their red registration bags with all name badges and teacher evaluations.** *(Certificates are removed from the red registration bags and all other contents including file folders and all badges along with the red registration bag are returned with the teacher evaluations.)*

The first part of the awards presentation has the announcements of the most effective witnesses and most effective attorneys awarded by the scoring judges for each trial in each round. (Nominations made by the students in the courtrooms after each round are not re-announced at this assembly.) The award presentation concludes with the regional coordinator announcing the **"proposed"** teams to represent their region at the state competition. *(The number of teams that advance from the regional competition to the state competition is a reflection of the size of the regional competition and can vary from region to region and from year to year. The goal is to bring a total of twelve teams to the state competition.)*

The regional coordinator announces the "proposed" teams to represent their region at the state competition. Scoresheets will be reconfirmed following the competition day and the official teams will be announced the following Tuesday by 5 p.m. on the SC Bar Web site at www.scbar.org/lre. Until certified by the SC Bar, the advancing teams are not finalized. The SC Bar reserves the right to correct any errors or omissions; therefore, any announcement of a team as advancing to the next level is subject to correction.

Following the announcement of the "proposed" teams to advance to the state competition, pictures are taken of each "proposed" team and the coordinator discusses the state competition and answers any questions from students, teachers, attorneys, and parents.

State Competition:

There is a separate registration fee of $150 for advancing teams to compete in the state competition. Lodging the Friday night of the competition may be needed for some regions as the competition takes place over two days. Registration typically begins around 11am on Friday and again at 8:00am on Saturday. The competition concludes Saturday evening. Should a school not be able to afford the expenditures associated with the state competition and forfeit their slot, the slot is offered to the next team according to ranking from that particular regional competition. A school cannot forfeit their slot past the drop deadline date provided each year.

National Competition - 2013: (High School Only)

Please note that the 2013 National Competition will be held on Mother's Day Weekend. The 2013 competition dates are **May 9-12, 2013** and it will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Mock Trial Case Release Dates

The Mock Trial case for each program is released online at www.scbar.org/lre no later than 5 p.m. on the following dates:

Middle School:
August 31, 2012

High School:
October 31, 2012