Penalty Form - Rule Violations

P ☐ v. D ☐

Date:_____

Team Code Lodging Dispute: _____

Round: 1 2 3 4 5

Competition Location:

❒ Coastal (Conway) ❒ Midlands (Lexington) ❒ Piedmont (Greenville)
❒ Lowcountry (N. Charleston) ❒ Midlands (USC) ❒ State

Instructions for Presiding Judge: At the end of the round, excuse the scoring judges. Instruct the coaches to come forward and discuss any rule violations with their teams. Ask the timekeeper to put two minutes on the clock. At the end of the two-minute period, ask each team, if they are raising a dispute. If yes, follow the hearing procedure set forth in Rule 6.1 (reprinted on the back of this form). If no, sign this form and proceed to the scoring room.

Rule Violation Allegation:

Name of Student Spokesperson: _____ Team Code:_____

State Violation: (to be completed by student spokesperson only)_____

_____

_____

Response to Rule Violation Allegation:

Name of Student Spokesperson: _____ Team Code:_____

State Violation: (to be completed by student spokesperson only)_____

_____

_____

COMPLETED BY PRESIDING JUDGE

Team Violations: (see Rule 6.1)

- Costuming and Props (see Rule 4.11) ..... 2-10 points
- Failure to Call all Witnesses (see Rule 4.5) ..... Team Forfeits
- Improper Communication (see Rules 4.6 and 4.12) ..... 2 – 10 points
- Unequal Distribution of Tasks Among the Team (See Rules 3.2 and 3.3) ..... 2–8 points
- Time Runs Out and Forced to Call Remaining Witness (see Rule 4.5) ..... 10 points
- Bad Faith "Creation of Material Fact" Objection (see Rule 2.3) ..... 1 – 7 points
- Any Other Rule Violation (except Creation of Material Fact or Time Infractions) ..... 1 – 10 points

- **Creation of Material Fact Violations are handled on the Penalty Form: Creation of Material Facts**

Decision of Presiding Judge (ANNOUNCE TO TEAMS):

❒ A rule violation occurred and a penalty will be assessed against Team Code:_____

❒ No violation occurred and no penalty will be assessed.

** **The presiding judge and scoring judges must sign this form at the end of the round.**

		( )
Presiding Judge – Printed	**Presiding Judge – Signature**	**Presiding Judge – Cell Phone Number**
Scoring Judge #1 – Printed	**Scoring Judge #1 - Signature**	
Scoring Judge #2 – Printed	**Scoring Judge #1 - Signature**	
Scoring Judge #3 – Printed	**Scoring Judge #3 - Signature**	

6. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

6.1 Penalties: Post Trial Disputes

The “bar” in a courtroom is traditionally a railing or low wall that separates the visitors from the presiding judge, jury, attorneys, parties, and testifying witnesses. For Mock Trial purposes, a violation “inside the bar” means a rule violation that is committed by a team or team member during the competition round.

Violations which occur within the bar must be filed immediately with the presiding judge following the conclusion of that trial round. Violations are not handled after the competition round has been adjourned by the presiding judge or the next business day.

After the trial has ended and the scoring judges have been excused, all members of the team (including those who did not compete in that particular round, the bailiff, and the timekeeper) will be permitted to consult with their attorney and teacher coaches for a maximum of two minutes. If a team believes that its opponent has committed a violation of the rules, one of the team’s student attorneys shall present the team’s position to the presiding judge by completing a Rules Violations Penalty Form. The Rules Violations Penalty Form may be completed only by a student attorney acting as the spokesperson competing in that round. The presiding judge will review the completed form and determine whether the violation raised should be heard or denied. The presiding judge may declare a brief recess and retire from the courtroom to deliberate.

A. If the presiding judge decides that the violation raised does not merit a hearing, the presiding judge will inform the teams of that decision and adjourn the round. In that event, the team that is the subject of the violation raised does not respond.
B. If the presiding judge decides that the violation raised merits a hearing, the Rules Violations Penalty Form completed by the objecting team will be shown to the opposing team to provide a written response. The opposing team may confer with their coaches for up to two minutes prior to responding. The objecting party may not confer further with their coaches during this period.
C. The teams will be given two minutes to prepare their arguments and designate one student spokesperson from each team to address the court for up to two minutes. The presiding judge may question the spokespersons and anyone else in the courtroom. At no time during the dispute hearing, may coaches or visitors communicate/consult with the students.
D. After the hearing, the presiding judge may declare a brief recess and retire from the courtroom to deliberate on his/her ruling. The presiding judge will announce his/her decision in open court. The presiding judge shall adjourn the court, retire to complete a scoresheet (if applicable), and turn the signed Rules Violations Penalty Form, Time Penalty Form and Penalty Form (COMF) in with the scoresheets.

Attorney coaches, teacher coaches, and visitors are not allowed to address the court regarding a violation complaint. Only student attorneys may invoke this procedure.

6.2 Other Penalties

A. **Time Violations:** At the end of the competition round, the presiding judge will collect the timesheets. The presiding judge will report any time violations to the scoring judges, who shall assess penalties as set forth in Rule 6.3. Disputes may not be raised regarding time violations. The Penalty Form – Time Violations is completed for all time violations.
B. **Creation of Material Fact Violations:** Creation of Material Fact may only be raised as an evidentiary objection during the round at the time the alleged violation occurred. The presiding judge will announce all rulings on such objections at the time the objection is made and will complete a Creation of Material Fact Penalty Form for each objection. If the presiding judge finds a Creation of Material Fact violation, the scoring judges shall assess a penalty as set forth in Rule 6.3. Disputes may not be raised regarding Creation of Material Fact violations or rulings at the end of the round.

6.3 Effect of Violation on Score

If the presiding judge determines that a rules violation, time violation, or creation of material fact violation has occurred, he or she will inform the scoring judges. The scoring judges will consider the violation(s) raised before assessing penalty points.

Scoring Penalties:

Scoring judges **shall** impose a team penalty within the indicated ranges from the following violations in the penalty box at the end of the scoresheet.