

COMPETITION APPLICATION

2019



2018 State High School Champions
Heathwood Hall Episcopal



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 acts 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 2019 High School Mock Trial Competition. Each participating school enters a team comprised of at least 7-14 students and sponsored by a teacher coach. **New this year, there are three students required to perform as attorneys.** 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 Prosecution/Plaintiff and Defense sides of the same case. Teams compete in three rounds at regional competitions. The top 12 teams from all of the regionals, advance to a state competition.

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 of 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.

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 mini-webinars at the link below.

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

FREE ONLINE 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 Attorney and Teacher 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.scbars.org/lre/hsmt

REGISTRATION INFORMATION. Complete and return the attached registration form, authorization form and nonrefundable \$150 registration fee. Names of actual students competing on the team are not needed at this time. A registration form may be turned in without payment in order to make the registration deadline without a penalty fee.

ALL REGISTRATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 12, 2018 TO AVOID A LATE FEE.

Late registrations received between October 13 – November 15, 2018, require a \$50 late registration fee.

REGISTRATION FEE—REGIONALS. The **nonrefundable** \$150 registration fee 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 payment is requested through a purchase order, indicate on the registration form and submit a copy with registration form. All registration fees are due no later than December 5, 2018, for the team to compete in the 2019 regional competitions.

REGISTRATION FEE—STATE. A separate registration fee of \$150 will be due two days **prior** to the competition date for all advancing state teams. An optional social event fee for Friday night's state competition will be charged. All payments can be in the form of check, credit card or purchase order.

COMPETITION FORMAT. Each team at the regional competition on Saturday, February 23, 2019 ideally competes in three rounds, at least once on the Prosecution/Plaintiff and Defense sides. The competition is divided into regional competitions, with a total of 12 teams advancing to the state competition. Teams have the option of self-electing on the application to travel to another region. Self-electing teams will be randomly drawn if additional teams are needed in a region. Regional locations will be assigned after the drop deadline in January. Once assigned to a regional competition, the location cannot be switched. The regional competitions will take place on Saturday, February 23, 2019. The state competition will take place Friday and Saturday, March 8-9, 2019. Each team at the state competition competes in three rounds of competition. The top two teams compete in two championship rounds, performing both sides of the case. Lunch will not be provided at either level of competition. Teams are to bring prepared lunches for their team and guests to the regional competitions.

CASE MATERIALS. Competition rules and modified rules of evidence are released in August 1, 2018 on the Bar's website. The case materials are posted on the website (www.scbare.org/lre) October 31, 2018, by 5 p.m., posted as one document broken into sections. Hard copies of the case materials are not available for purchase. Any updates to the case materials are posted on the forum discussion board. Timekeeping cards and materials will be provided for use at the competition only. If teams would like to practice with the actual timecards, they can be downloaded for free or one set per team may be purchased by the payment deadline.

FORUM DISCUSSION BOARD. An online forum discussion board is available for all Mock Trial teachers, attorney coaches and students at <http://discussions.scbare.org>. Teams interested in scrimmaging may post scrimmage requests on the forum. Questions concerning the Mock Trial competition should be submitted on the online forum or by email. All questions and answers are posted to the forum. **NO** questions are answered by telephone. The forum closes ten business days prior to each competition day at noon.

HONOR CORDS. High school Mock Trial seniors may be recognized with purple honor cords at their graduation at the low price of \$5 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 SC Bar LRE programs. Teachers eligible for the LRE Teacher of the Year Award with \$1000 in nondesignated funds; individuals such as SROs, administrators and nonteachers are eligible for LRE Citizen of the Year Award in the amount of \$500 in nondesignated funds and attorneys can be nominated for LRE Lawyer of the Year Award and recognized in front of their peers. High School Mock Trial seniors may apply for \$1,000 scholarships as nondesignated 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 13, 2019. 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@scbar.org or (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 or alumni within the community. Attorney coaches can receive pro bono credit for the hours volunteered with a school. If an attorney coach cannot be obtained through the suggested outlets, the SC Bar can help with the search. There is no guarantee that an attorney coach can be secured. Attorney coaches should obtain and follow the school's policy on adult/children interaction. An attorney is a volunteer for the school and not the SC Bar.

WITHDRAWAL FROM THE COMPETITION. In the event it becomes necessary for a team to withdraw from the competition, the team must inform the State Mock Trial Coordinator immediately, but **no later than Friday, January 10, 2019**, with submission of a withdrawal form signed by the lead teacher coach and school principal. The form is included in the competition materials. Failure to inform the State Coordinator causes extreme hardship to the other schools assigned to the team's region 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 is subject to a one-year suspension from the competition. Registration fees are NONREFUNDABLE.***

2019 COMPETITION DATES

Regional Competitions
February 23
Columbia, Conway, Georgetown,
Greenville and Lexington

State Competition
March 8-9
(Location to TBD)

National Competition
May 16-18
Athens, Georgia

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

Courtroom Sketch Artists will create sketches depicting 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. Only one sketch may be submitted 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 are 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 SC 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 type articles describing the actual courtroom presentations observed at the assigned regional competition. Typed articles are approved by the lead teacher and e-mailed to the SC 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 typed with one inch margins throughout, double spaced and typed in 12 point Arial font. Laptops are not permitted in the courthouse. Articles are judged on the following criteria: accuracy, clarity, objectivity, fairness, style, grammar and spelling. All submissions become the property of the SC Bar and may be used by the LRE Division for any purpose it deems appropriate, including but not limited to reproduction and dissemination.

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. (See Rule 3.1 on Team Eligibility.) Teams do not have to register student participants at the time of initially registering a team. Artists and journalists may not double as bailiffs, timekeepers or any other team role. Courtroom artists and journalists along with their sponsors must stay for a minimum of the first round. Registration is due January 10, 2019 on the School Information Sheet.

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 along with their teacher sponsors are 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@sctbar.org. Registration is due January 10, 2019.

DECLARATION OF STATE CHAMPION: The student in each category with the highest score from all the regions is declared the state champion. The winner of the Courtroom Sketch Artist and Journalist competitions is announced up to two weeks following the regional competition.

NATIONAL ADVANCEMENT: The winning state courtroom artist is eligible to advance to the national competition with an adult chaperone. The SC Bar will pay the registration fee, but all other expenses are the responsibility of the artist. The winning state courtroom artist confirms participation with the state coordinator no later than March 15, 2019.

SC BAR **MOCK TRIAL** Training Application

**FREE
TRAINING**
& FREE VIDEO WITH TRAINING

September 13, 2018
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. Each registrant completes a separate form.

LEVEL: MIDDLE SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL
ROLE: TEACHER COACH ATTORNEY COACH

Name: _____

Position/Title: _____

Name of School Competing: _____

School/Business Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Primary E-mail Address (required): _____

Secondary E-mail Address: _____

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

Years of Mock Trial Experience: _____

Reason(s) why Coaching a Mock Trial Team: _____

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 is not allowed to attend another LRE training for a period of one year.

**Fax registration form or scan and email by September 7, 2018, to Marian Kirk at
(803) 771-0419 or mkirk@sbar.org.**

If you miss this training or would like a refresher, the training is featured as video clips.
Click [HERE](#) for webinar trainings.

The training segments include: (In person on September 13, 2018 or available as online web 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

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 materials. Should it become necessary to withdraw from the competition for any reason, we agree that we will inform the State Mock Trial Coordinator **no later than January 10, 2019**.

As **principal**, I understand the lead teacher coach designated on this Authorization Form is directly responsible for the Mock Trial team. I understand the lead teacher coach responsibilities and deadlines (indicated below) and understand 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, I will notify the SC Bar immediately and an updated Authorization Form will be submitted.

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

Deadlines to Meet:

- Registration Deadline (without late fee) October 12, 2018
- Registration Deadline (with \$50 late fee) November 15, 2018
- Registration Fee Due December 5, 2018
- Drop Deadline January 10, 2019
- Code of Ethical Conduct Form/School Information Sheet Due January 10, 2019
- Registration Deadline for Courtroom Artists and Journalists January 10, 2019
- Respond with Conference Call Date Selection by February 1, 2019
- Participate on conference calls at selected date/times (10 a.m. or 4 p.m.) February 13, 2019
- Respond to final team confirmation week of competition Immediately upon receipt

Competition Dates: Regionals — February 23, 2019 and **State** — March 8 and 9, 2019

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

- Submit registration paperwork and payment;
- 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);
- Ensure all students are accounted for after a competition and are supervised until school approved transportation arrives for all team members;
- Monitor forum discussions for updates to the case, rules, and/or competition;
- Respond to e-mails 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 school's principal on the status of the team's progress throughout the Mock Trial season.

We understand that as the principal and lead teacher coach, our failure to inform the State Mock Trial Coordinator promptly of the withdrawal of our school from the competition results in 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 11, 2018, results in a one-year suspension from the competition. We further agree our team will participate in each round of the competition. We also understand once confirmed to the state and/or national competition, that refusal to advance to the next level of 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: _____

SUBMIT WITH REGISTRATION FORM

38th ANNUAL SOUTH CAROLINA BAR HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION Registration Form

Please supply the following information to register a team for the High School Mock Trial Competition. **The registration deadline is October 12, 2018** (late registration deadline with late fee is November 15, 2018). Please type or print.

SCHOOL INFO.

School Name: _____
 Teacher/Sponsor Name (Main Contact): _____
 Planning Period Hours: First Semester: _____ Second Semester: _____
 Direct Phone Number:(_____) _____ Ext: _____ E-mail: _____
 Cell Phone Number:(_____) _____ (Required)
 Additional Teachers/Coaches Name: _____ E-mail: _____
 Name: _____ E-mail: _____
 School Web Address: _____
 Grade Levels at School: _____
 School County: _____ School Phone Number: _____
 School Address (no P.O. boxes): _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Name of Feeder High Schools: _____
 Check here if school will be promoting the courtroom sketch artist and courtroom journalist components.
Willing to Travel to Another Region (Check All that Apply): Columbia Conway Georgetown
 Greenville Lexington

ATTORNEY COACH INFO.

Lead Attorney Coach: _____
 Direct Phone Number: (_____) _____ Ext: _____ E-mail: _____
 Cell Phone Number: (_____) _____ (Required)
 Additional Attorney Coaches Name: _____ E-mail: _____
 Name: _____ E-mail: _____
Attorney Coach:
 _____ **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.**

PRESS INFO.

Name of Local Newspaper(s): _____
 Name of Local News station(s): (eg. WLTX) _____

DEPARTMENT CHAIR INFO.

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

FEES

_____	Registration (one team only) due October 12, 2018	\$150	_____
_____	Late registraton fee (\$50) (October 13 - November 15, 2018)	\$50	_____
_____	Honor Cords (\$5 each) (distributed at regionals)	\$5 each	_____
_____	Sample Mock Trial Video (\$10 per copy) (filmed 2012) *free if attending training*	\$10 each	_____
_____	Time Card Set (1 per team shipped after payment received)	\$25 each	_____
		Total Due:	_____

PAYMENT

Check payable to SC Bar LRE Division (Separate check for each school within a district)
 Purchase Order Submitted with Check to Follow
 Credit Card, call Donald Lanier (803) 252-5139
 **A copy of the school's purchase order may be submitted with the registration form, with check to follow. The registration fee must be received no later than December 5, 2018. Fee is non-refundable.

Send completed Registration Form and signed Authorization Form at the same time to:

South Carolina Bar LRE Division • P.O. Box 608 • Columbia, SC 29201-0608
 (803) 252-5139 • Fax: (803) 771-0419
 Scan/Email to Marian Kirk at mkirk@scbar.org