



2021 / 2022
Mock Trial
Middle and High School
Competition Handbook

**A PROJECT OF THE
SOUTH CAROLINA BAR
LAW RELATED EDUCATION COMMITTEE
AND THE MOCK TRIAL SUB-COMMITTEE**

2021/22 SC BAR PRESIDENT

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Mock Trial is made possible with the support of the
[South Carolina Bar Foundation's IOLTA grant](#) and the [South Carolina Bar](#).

MIDDLE SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL PAST STATE CHAMPIONS

2002 – Sneed Middle	2011 – Johnsonville Middle
2003 – Myrtle Beach Middle (Coastal Region)	2012 – Forestbrook Middle
2003 – Lady’s Island Middle (Midlands Region)	2013 – Forestbrook Middle(BOC Champions)
2003 – Riverside Middle (Piedmont Region)	2014 – Forestbrook Middle(BOC Champions)
2004 – Johnsonville Middle	2015 – n/a – no state competition
2005 – Johnsonville Middle	2016 – Moultrie Middle
2006 – Hand Middle	2017 – Fort Mill Middle
2007 – Springfield Middle	2018 – Heathwood Hall Episcopal
2008 – Springfield Middle	2019 – Buist Academy
2009 – Forestbrook Middle	2020 – N/A – No State Competition
2010 – Forestbrook Middle	



2020/21 Regional Winner – JET Middle School

HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL PAST STATE CHAMPIONS

1982 – Dreher High	2002 – Berkeley High
1983 – Conway High	2003 – Bob Jones Academy
1984 – Strom Thurmond High	2004 – Bob Jones Academy..... (National Champions)
1985 – Strom Thurmond High	2005 – Berkeley High
1986 – Myrtle Beach High	2006 – Berkeley High
1987 – Strom Thurmond High	2007 – Fort Mill High
1988 – Socastee High(National Champions)	2008 – Berkeley High
1989 – Berkeley High	2009 – Fort Mill High
1990 – Irmo High	2010 – Bob Jones Academy
1991 – Berkeley High	2011 – North Myrtle Beach High
1992 – Irmo High	2012 – Strom Thurmond High
1993 – Berkeley High	2013 – North Myrtle Beach High
1994 – Middleton High	2014 – North Myrtle Beach High..(Nationals – 1st Runner Up)
1995 – Bob Jones Academy	2015 – Strom Thurmond High
1996 – Socastee High	2016 – Fort Mill High
1997 – Socastee High	2017 – Strom Thurmond High
1998 – Socastee High	2018 – Heathwood Hall Episcopal School
1999 – Socastee High	2019 – Strom Thurmond High
2000 – Berkeley High	2020 – Strom Thurmond High
2001 – Bob Jones Academy	2021 – Bob Jones Academy



2021 State High School Mock Trial Champion – Bob Jones Academy

PROFESSIONALISM AND CIVILITY AWARD WINNERS

The first Professionalism and Civility Awards were presented to one Middle School and High School team at their state competition. The competing teams nominated a team that demonstrated the following qualities inside and outside the courtroom:

- Professional demeanor
- Civility
- Integrity
- Honesty
- Fair play
- Respect for the competition
- Respect for fellow competitors
- Respect for volunteers and all associated with the program inside and outside the courtroom throughout the competition
- Respect for courthouse staff and facilities



MIDDLE SCHOOL

2016 – Heathwood Hall Episcopal (State)

2017 – Ben Lippen (Regional)

2017 – Bob Jones (Regional)

2017 – Longleaf..... (Regional)

2017 – Philip Simmons (Regional)

2017 – Ten Oaks..... (Regional)

2017 – Buist..... (State)

2018 – Cario (Regional)

2018 – Forestbrook (Regional)

2018 – Heathwood Hall Episcopal... (Regional)

2018 – Leavelle McCampbell (Regional)

2018 – Pleasant Knoll (Regional)

2018 – Chapin (State)

2019 – AL Corbett (Regional)

2019 – Bob Jones (Regional)

2019 – Heathwood Hall Episcopal... (Regional)

2019 – St. James – Santee (Regional)

2019 – Ten Oaks..... (Regional)

2019 – Chapin (State)

2020 – Chapin (Regional)

HIGH SCHOOL

2017 – Chapin (State)

2018 – Dorman..... (Regional)

2018 – Gov. Sch. for Science & Math
..... (Regional)

2018 – Indian Land..... (Regional)

2018 – Kingstree (Regional)

2018 – Spring Hill (Regional)

2018 – Wilson..... (State)

2019 – Charleston Sch. of Arts (Regional)

2019 – Fort Mill..... (Regional)

2019 – Indian Land..... (Regional)

2019 – Kingstree (Regional)

2019 – Socastee..... (Regional)

2019 – Spring Hill (Regional)

2019 – Ft. Dorchester..... (State)

2020 – Dutch Fork..... (Regional)

2020 – Heathwood Hall Episcopal(Regional)

2020 – Kingstree (Regional)

2020 – May River (Regional)

2020 – Wade Hampton (Regional)

2020 – Carolina Forest..... (State)

2021 – W.J. Keenan..... (Regional)

2021 – Lexington (Regional)

2021 – Ft. Dorchester..... (Regional)

2021 – Chas. Cty. Sch. of Arts..... (state)

HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL
COURTROOM ARTIST AND JOURNALIST STATE WINNERS

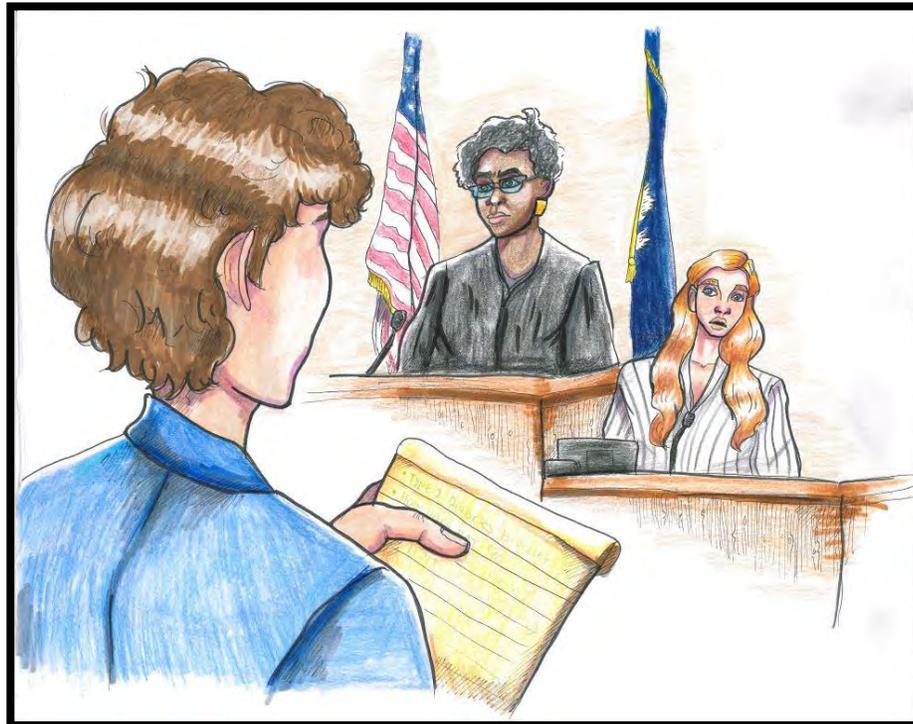
COURTROOM ARTIST

- 2011 – Jane Xu, Dreher High
- 2012 – Megan Greer,
Montessori School of Anderson
- 2013 – Elissa Na, Bob Jones Academy
- 2014 – Ezekiel King, Wade Hampton High
- 2015 – Ezekiel King, Wade Hampton High
- 2016 – Natalie Fanello,
Montessori School of Anderson
- 2017 – Marina Ataalla, Carolina Forest High
- 2018 – Ruby Dozier, Manning High
- 2019 – Grace Wood, NEXT High
- 2020 – Morela Taffe, Indian Land High
- 2021 – (no competition due to virtual)

COURTROOM JOURNALIST

- 2011 – Caylyn Bird, Spring Valley High
- 2012 – Kayla Fenstermaker,
Bob Jones Academy
- 2013 – Ya Fang, Governor’s School for
Science and Mathematics
- 2014 – Ana Kate Barker,
Bob Jones Academy
- 2015 – Jacqueline Tobin, Governor’s School
for Science and Mathematics
- 2016 – Kristal L. Herrin,
Strom Thurmond High
- 2017 – Rachel Black,
York Preparatory Academy
- 2018 – Maggie May, Dorman High
- 2019 – Rachel Black,
York Preparatory Academy
- 2020 – Ariel Burrow, Dorman High
- 2021 – (no competition due to virtual)

Samples of previous sketch entries can be viewed online. ([click here](#))



Sample Entry by Morella Taffe (Indian Land High School)

INTRODUCTION TO THE MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION

The Mock Trial program is sponsored by the South Carolina Bar Law Related Education (LRE) Division. South Carolina public schools, private schools, and homeschooled students throughout the state are invited to participate in this competitive program in one of the two categories; middle school or high school. Each participating school enters a team ideally composed of 14 – 16+ students (and a minimum of 6 students middle school and 7 students high school) and requires a teacher coach sponsor. The SC Bar LRE Division assists in locating attorney coaches to help teams prepare for the competition and provides the team with the Case Materials, the Competition Handbook, and other competition materials on the LRE website at www.sctbar.org/lre.

The Mock Trial competitions are divided into regional competitions with a culminating state competition at both the middle and high school levels. A total of twelve teams advance from regional competitions participate in their respective state competitions using the same case. For high school, the state champion represents South Carolina in the National High School Mock Trial competition using a new national case.

Teams are officially assigned to a region after the drop date assigned for each level. Once a team is assigned to a region, the team cannot switch regions without the approval of the State Mock Trial Coordinator. *(Regions are subject to be split based on courthouse capacity.)*

Competition Schedule for Middle and High Schools:

Due to the demand on courthouses and the back log of cases impacted by Covid-19, a hybrid schedule is offered below.

Students and coaches will be required to set up a free Zoom account to compete. Students may compete individually from their home, or compete as a team at the school depending on school policies and technology available.

Middle School Mock Trial:

Regionals (2-day virtual)Friday and Saturday, November 12 – 13, 2021
(If more than 20 middle school teams compete in regionals, there will be a state competition.)
State (3-day virtual)December 2, 3 and 4, 2021

High School Mock Trial:

Regionals (2-day virtual)Friday and Saturday, February 25 and 26, 2022
(If more than 20 high school teams compete in regionals, there will be a state competition.)
State (if possible - proposing in-person)
In-Person Dates (2-day):.....March 11 and 12, 2022
Virtual Dates (3-day):March 10, 11 and 12, 2022
HS Nationals (hosted by Kalamazoo, Michigan).....May 4 – 7, 2022
(It is still being determined if in-person is possible or not.)

GOALS

The goals of this program are, first and foremost, to educate South Carolina students about the basis of our American judicial system and the mechanics of litigation. The program also serves to build bridges of mutual cooperation, respect, and support between the community and the legal profession. Through participation in the Mock Trial program; students increase important skills such as listening, speaking, writing, reading, and analyzing. All participants are encouraged to keep in mind that the goal of the Mock Trial program is not to win for the sake of winning, but to learn and understand the meaning of good citizenship in a democratic republic through participation in our system of law and justice. All who participate in the Mock Trial program are winners in this sense.

Students – Your participation in Mock Trial will allow you to experience what it is like to prepare for and present a case before a presiding judge and scoring judges. Working with your team and coaches in a safe and fun learning environment provided by your school, you will learn to evaluate information and to respond quickly. As you prepare, you will sharpen public speaking and presentation skills. The greatest benefit is the opportunity to learn how the legal system works. By studying and understanding courtroom procedure, you should become more comfortable with federal and state laws as part of the legal system. Your interaction with some of South Carolina’s finest attorneys and judges in a professional setting will give you a glimpse of the different interpretations of trial procedure and the different litigation styles of individual members in the legal arena.

Teacher Coaches, Attorney Coaches, and/or Judges – We strongly encourage you to focus on the goal of student participation rather than placing an emphasis on winning while preparing for the competition. Your contribution of time and talent make many experiential educational opportunities available annually to South Carolina students. Your participation is a key element to the success of this program. You can be proud of the impact you will make on the lives of these students. All coaches; teacher and attorney; should obtain and follow the school’s policy on adult/children interaction for in-person and virtual interaction. An attorney is a volunteer for the school and not the SC Bar.

CASE RELEASE INFORMATION

The case is available on the Internet in the LRE section of the South Carolina Bar’s Web site, located at www.sctbar.org/lre and by clicking on either the Middle or High School Mock section. The new Case Materials will be released August 13, 2021, no later than 5pm.

DISCUSSION FORUM

The Mock Trial Discussion Forum is a place to post questions concerning the content of the Case Materials, the Competition Rules, and the competition. The Discussion Forum is located on the LRE website.

[Click Here for Discussion Forum](#)

The links above take you to a registration page for the Discussion Forum. It can take up to 48 hours to gain access to the Discussion Forum once registered. The Discussion Forum should be checked often for postings. Responses posted to the questions could change Competition Rules, the Case Materials, and/or competition specifics that apply on competition day. The Discussion Forum closes ten business days prior to a competition.

HAVE MOCK TRIAL QUESTIONS?

Attorney Coach Needed.....	Donald Lanier
Case.....	Ask on Forum Discussion
Competition.....	Ask on Forum Discussion or Contact Cynthia H. Cothran
Concerns.....	Cynthia H. Cothran
Credit Card Payment.....	Donald Lanier
Downloading Materials.....	Donald Lanier
Forms.....	Marian Kirk
Forum Registration.....	Donald Lanier
General Questions.....	Cynthia H. Cothran
Purchase Orders.....	Marian Kirk
Registration.....	Marian Kirk
Training.....	Marian Kirk
Webinar Registration.....	Donald Lanier

LAW RELATED EDUCATION DIVISION.....	(803) 252-5139
Cynthia H. Cothran, LRE Director.....	ccothran@scbar.org
Marian Kirk, LRE Coordinator II.....	mkirk@scbar.org
Donald Lanier, LRE Manager.....	dlanier@scbar.org

2021/2022
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!

Scholarships – Mock Trial **\$1,000**

Each year, high school seniors are selected as scholarship recipients. Students must have been a member of a Mock Trial team (middle and/or high school); must have at least two years of Mock Trial experience, must have participated in a Mock Trial competition sponsored by the SC Bar LRE Division; must have a minimum GPA of 2.5; must plan to attend a post-secondary institution such as a technical, two-year, or four-year college/university; and must submit a complete application to be eligible. Scholarships are an award of \$1,000 as non-designated funds and mailed directly to the recipients.

Scholarships – We the People **\$1,000**

Each year, high school seniors are selected as scholarship recipients. Students must have been a member of a *We the People* team (middle and/or high school); must have participated in *We the People* competition sponsored by the SC Bar LRE Division; must have a minimum GPA of 2.5; must plan to attend a post-secondary institution such as a technical, two-year, or four-year college/university; and must submit a complete application to be eligible. Scholarships are an award of \$1,000 as non-designated funds and mailed directly to the recipients.

LRE Middle and High Teacher of the Year: **\$1,000**

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 \$1,000 as non-designated funds. The plaque and check is presented at the school to the teacher.

LRE Citizen of the Year:

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 is 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 receives a plaque 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 is 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 is 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 23, 2022 at noon

Award Letters – Mid-April 2022

Presentation of Awards – May and June 2022

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

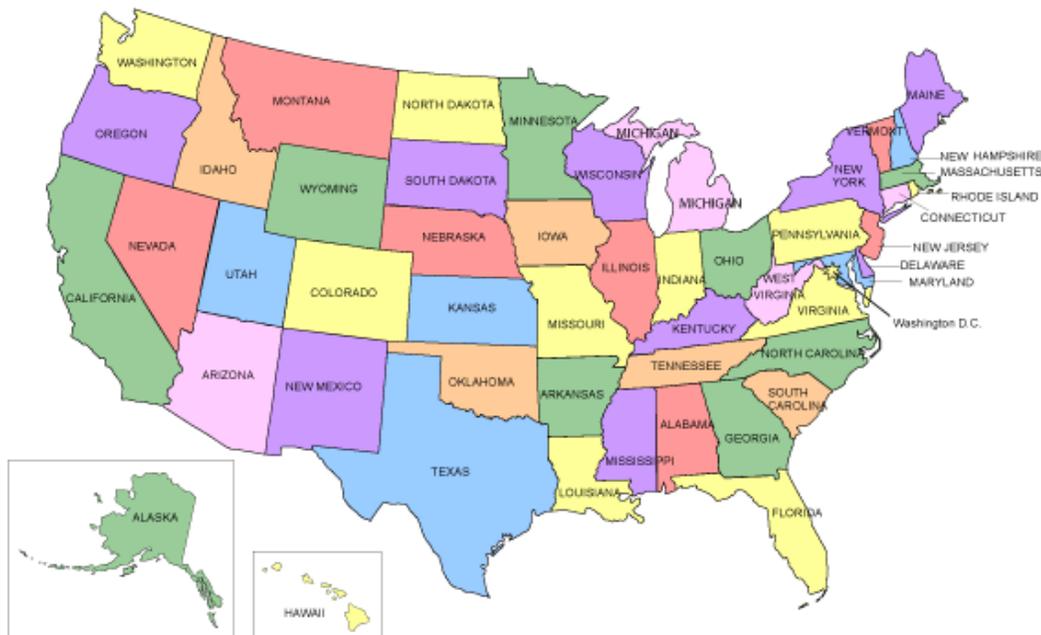
To download applications/nomination forms, visit the website at www.scbar.org/lre.

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.collegemocktrial.org/



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 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 remembers and likes to include accents, costumes, and one-liners make witnesses entertaining and fun to play.

2020/21 High School Mock Trial Participation (Virtual Statewide)

Here is a list of high schools that competed in 2021.

Columbia

AC Flora High
Chapin High
Fort Mill High
Lucy Beckham High
Socastee High
W.J. Keenan High
York Preparatory Academy

Conway Region

Bob Jones Academy
Brookland Cayce High
Cane Bay High
Carolina Forest High
Charleston County School of the Arts
Conway Christian
Governor's School for Science and Mathematics
Greenville Sr. High Academy of Law, Fin. & Bus.
Lexington High
Wilson High

Georgetown Region

N/A due to virtual year.

Greenville Region

Academic Magnet High
Beaufort Academy
Dreher High
Dutch Fork High
Eau Claire High
Fort Dorchester High
Nation Ford High
Spring Hill High
Strom Thurmond High
Waccamaw High

Lexington Region

N/A due to virtual year.

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

Regional assignments for the current High School Mock Trial participants are not released until the middle of January 2022.

2020/21 Middle School Mock Trial Participation (Statewide)

Here is a list of middle schools that competed in 2020.

Conway Region

N/A due to virtual year.

Georgetown Region

N/A due to virtual year.

Greenville Region

N/A due to virtual year.

Lexington - Westbrook Region

N/A due to virtual year.

Lexington - Summary Region

Bob Jones Academy
Buist Academy for Advanced Studies
C.E. Murray Middle and High
Chapin Middle
Clemson Area Classical Academy
Dent Middle
JET Middle
Longleaf Middle
Palmetto Academy of Learning and Success
St. Andrew Catholic
St. James - Santee Elementary and Middle

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

Regional assignments for the current Middle School Mock Trial participants are not released until early October 2021.



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 teacher's cases 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 cases 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 staff. A member of the LRE Division is available to come and film the presentation for the school to keep. A presentation date can be scheduled with the SC Bar staff.

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 is 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.sctbar.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@sctbar.org.

Competition Schedule Sample for In-Person Competitions

Please note the agendas below are examples. Participants should rely on information provided directly to the teams for exact competition specifics for their location assignment as it can change depending on the needs/availability of a regional location.

Regional Agenda	
8:30	Team Registrations
9:00	Arrival Deadline
9:15	Round #1 <i>(must be in room 15 minutes prior to the round)</i>
10:45	Team Lunch <i>(teams on their own, no eating at restaurants– only time for lunch)</i>
12:00	Pairings Posted
12:15	Round #2 <i>(must be in room 15 minutes prior to the round)</i>
2:15	Team Break <i>(snack break only, no eating at restaurants, late penalties apply)</i>
2:45	Pairings Posted
3:00	Round #3 <i>(must be in room 15 minutes prior to the round)</i>
5:15	Departure <i>(teams on their own for dinner)</i>
8:30	Virtual Closing Assembly for all Regional Competitions

State Agenda	
Friday	
12:00	Team Registrations
12:30	Arrival Deadline
12:45	Round #1
2:45	Team Break <i>(teams on their own, snack break only, no restaurants, late penalties apply)</i>
4:00	Pairings Posted
4:15	Round #2
7:00	Departure <i>(teams on their own for dinner)</i>
Saturday	
8:00	Team Check-In
8:45	Round #3
12:00	Awards Assembly
12:30	Dismissal of All Teams Not Advancing to the Championship Round
12:30	Box Lunch for Top Two Championship Teams and Their Guests
1:00	Championship Round #1
3:30	Team Break
3:45	Championship Round #2
7:00	Closing Assembly and Presentation of Gavel
7:45	Departure <i>(teams on their own for dinner)</i>

Competition Schedule Sample for Virtual Regional Competition

Day 1: Friday

1:30pm	Teams Log Into Zoom
1:40pm	Arrival Deadline
1:50pm	Teams Move Into Virtual Courtrooms Once Verified
2:00pm	Round #1
4:30pm	Teams Dismissed
4:30pm	Teams Submit Timesheets
Evening	Coaches Receive Email on Round Postings/Links for Round #2

Day 2: Saturday

9:00am	Teams Log Into Zoom
9:15am	Arrival Deadline
9:20am	Teams Move Into Virtual Courtrooms Once Verified
9:30am	Round #2
12:00pm	Teams Dismissed
12:00pm	Teams Submit Timesheets
1:45pm	Coaches Receive Email on Round Postings/Links for Round #3
2:00pm	Teams Log Into Zoom
2:10pm	Arrival Deadline
2:15pm	Teams Move Into Virtual Courtrooms Once Verified
2:20pm	Round #3
4:45pm	Teams Dismissed
4:45pm	Teams Submit Timesheets
7:30pm	Closing Assembly – includes announcements from all regionals held

Competition Schedule Sample for Virtual State Competition

Day 1: Thursday

1:30pm	Teams Log Into Zoom
1:45pm	Arrival Deadline
1:45pm	Teams Move Into Virtual Courtrooms Once Verified
2:00pm	Round #1
4:30pm	Teams Dismissed
4:30pm	Teams Submit Timesheets
Evening	Coaches Receive Email on Round Postings/Links for Round #2

Day 2: Friday

9:00am	Teams Log Into Zoom
9:15am	Arrival Deadline
9:20am	Teams Move Into Virtual Courtrooms Once Verified
9:30am	Round #2
12:00pm	Teams Dismissed
12:00pm	Teams Submit Timesheets
1:45pm	Coaches Receive Email on Round Postings/Links for Round #3
2:00pm	Teams Log Into Zoom
2:10pm	Arrival Deadline
2:15pm	Teams Move Into Virtual Courtrooms Once Verified
2:20pm	Round #3
4:45pm	Teams Dismissed
4:45pm	Teams Submit Timesheets
6:30pm	Closing Assembly – includes announcement of Top 2 Teams for Championship Rounds

Day 3: Saturday – Top 2 Championship Teams ONLY

9:00am	Teams Log Into Zoom
9:15am	Arrival Deadline
9:20am	Teams Move Into Virtual Courtrooms Once Verified
9:30am	Championship Round #1
12:00pm	Teams Dismissed
12:00pm	Teams Submit Timesheets
1:30pm	Teams Log Into Zoom
1:40pm	Arrival Deadline
1:50pm	Teams Move Into Virtual Courtrooms Once Verified
2:00pm	Championship Round #2
4:45pm	Teams Dismissed
4:45pm	Teams Submit Timesheets
6:30pm	State Championship Results Announced

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 complete the online Pro Bono Reporting Page or return this hard copy to:
South Carolina Bar, LRE Division
P.O. Box 608, Columbia, S. C. 29202-0608
Scan and email to: ccothran@scbar.org

NEW - Online Reporting Option: The member goes to the Bar's website (www.scbar.org), logs in with bar number and password, goes to the Bar Member section toolbar, from the drop down menu picks the Pro Bono Program Page. Pick the third option, reporting other Pro Bono / Public Service Activities. Fill in the form and hit submit. It is that quick.

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#:** _____

VOLUNTEER DATES: _____

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

**VOLUNTEER
CAPACITY:**

Judged: _____

Coached: _____ **School**

Other: _____

WHAT PARENTS AND VISITORS SHOULD KNOW

- Parents and all guests are referred to as visitors.
- Parents meet with your student's teacher coach to learn about practice schedules, transportation to/from the competition, snacks for practices, snacks/lunch for the competition, dress attire for students, travel plans, where to meet for the competition, competition schedule, arrival times, departure time estimations, etc.
- Parents and visitors are welcome to attend the competitions. Competing students, teacher coach(es) and attorney coach(es) wear separate "team" badges. Teams are provided a maximum number of 24 "visitor" badges to watch their team. Visitors cannot view any round without the matching visitor badges which are 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. Visitors receive visitor badges from the lead teacher coach after the teacher registers 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 kept confidential from the scoring judges. Visitors are not to wear or bring school names, logos, or colors on any items brought into the courtroom. Also, the teams and their visitors only identify themselves by their assigned team codes for the competition, not by the school name.
- Seating is limited in various courtrooms throughout the state. Teams with a large number of visitors will be required to have visitors take turns observing students perform using the limited number of visitor badges provided.

For example, Johnny is only performing for the Defense side, but the Prosecution/Plaintiff side is currently performing. Parents and visitors associated with Johnny 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 is extended when sides switch, should that courtroom present space constraints.

- Know that teachers receive the order of the performing sides for the first round seven business days prior to the competition; which helps visitors plan for attendance and/or seating space constraints. However, if teams drop out during the seven business days prior to the competition, agendas do change to include the morning of the competition should a team "no show." The agenda is always subject to change.
- Everyone is asked to respect the arrival times, competition round times, breaks and lunch time by never being late. Students are to be in their respective courtrooms 15 minutes prior to each round for in-person competitions and 30 minutes prior for virtual competitions. 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, briefcases, bags, etc. that have to be examined, the longer the entry time.) It is suggested for lead teacher coach to 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 process speeds up entry into the courthouse.
- All late arrivals present a hardship on the teams. In the event a visitor arrives late, there is staff to assist in finding the assigned courtroom for each team. However, entering or exiting the courtroom should only occur during transitional periods taking place in the

courtroom. For example, enter when a witness is getting off of the witness stand and not during an opening, direct, cross, or closing. Each team should have one person stand outside their courtroom and assist in ensuring late arrivals or people leaving during the trial only enter and exit during transitions. This process ensures 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 visitors. Times are “approximate” and 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. Even if the round a visitor views ends “on time,” all teams must wait to begin the next round until all teams have completed the same round in order for power matching for the next round to take place. This wait time may be as much as one hour for the teams that finish the earliest.
- If a visitor knows in advance that s/he is only coming to see the one round his/her 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. 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.
- Visitors are not allowed to move around the courtroom during a trial or participate in any way to include asking about time used, signaling, passing notes, mouthing to students, 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 possession of cell phones and are confiscated by security personnel. Should a cell phone be permitted into the courthouse, it is asked for all cell phones be turned off while in the courtroom. Cell phones or any other technology is not permitted in front of the bar.
- 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 asks 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. Media may be on-site at a competition.
- Teams are notified in advance in the event that there are an odd number of teams participating in a given regional competition that requires a team to become a “bye” team during a round. See information about a bye round in the rules section of the Mock Trial Competition Handbook ([Rule 5.9 – Bye Round](#)).
- In general, there are very few, if any, restaurants within walking distance of the competition locations. Students stay on the competition grounds and visitors either bring prepared lunch or have lunch delivered to the team.

- The presiding judge allows up to a five minute recess prior to the closing arguments. Everyone behind the bar can leave the courtroom at that time, but may not communicate with any of the competing team members in front of the bar. All students in front of the bar remain in the courtroom and do not communicate with anyone behind the bar. Students in front of the bar may talk amongst themselves. Visitors that leave during the break risk not being able to re-enter the courtroom in the event both teams are prepared to start their closing arguments prior to the end of the five minute recess.
- Any concerns, issues or feedback discussed with the State and/or Regional Mock Coordinator is to be made solely by the lead teacher coach and/or the lead attorney coach. Any communication not from either of these two coaches is considered to be in non-compliance and is subject to penalties according to [Rule 3.9 Communication with Mock Trial Coordinators](#) and [Rule 6.4 Discipline for Non-Trial Rules Violations](#). This rule is in place before and during the competition. All post-competition communication is solely by the lead teacher coach and/or attorney coach directed to the State Coordinator only. There is no reaching out to judges or Regional Coordinators post competition. Any post-competition communication not directed to the State Coordinator subjects the team to penalties up to disqualification the following school year.
- There is a closing assembly at the end of the competition day and visitors are welcome to attend. 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, and visitors do not want to miss the closing assembly.
- During this assembly, the most effective attorney and most effective witness from each round nominated by the scoring judges are announced and concludes with the announcement of the “proposed” top team in that region to advance to the state competition along with the next two highest teams as information only. Being announced as second and third place teams does not guarantee automatic advancement to the state competition. In addition, the Professionalism and Civility Award (determined by team nominations) will be awarded. All scoresheets are confirmed and the official teams advancing to the state competition are announced by 5pm the Tuesday following the regional competitions. There are a total of 12 teams that advance to the state competition to include a top team from each regional competition and the remaining slots are filled with wild card teams. Wild card teams are the teams with the next highest wins, ballots, points, and point spread out of all the regional competitions.
- Teams along with their visitors should block their calendar with the state competition dates in the event their team advances to the state 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, the team forfeits its slot and is awarded to the next highest placing team in the state. For this reason, three back-up teams are announced along with the top twelve advancing teams.



What to Expect at Regional Mock Trial Competitions *(in person)*

The Basics: What is Mock Trial?

A *Mock Trial* is a pretend trial and involves either civil or criminal cases, just like a real court. Federal rules and procedures are modified to simplify the process of 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 are 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 also available in many elementary, middle schools, high schools, and colleges throughout the state. And, graduating High School Mock Trial students are eligible for High School Mock Trial scholarships when continuing with higher education.

Nametags:

There is a maximum number of 24 visitor badges allotted per team. No one can view any round without matching visitor badges. All team members and visitors are identified accordingly with their respective team badges. Students 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, teachers, and attorney coaches are assigned the same two coded letters on their badges, but with their respective titles (visitor, teacher, or attorney coach). Note that if there are more than 16 students (MS) or 14 (HS) students on a team, the remaining students wear visitor badges. There are only 24 visitor badges total available to a team. Announcements at the awards ceremony begin after all badges have been collected.

Room Assignments:

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

Judging/Scoring:

Each trial has a presiding judge overseeing the trial and a minimum of two and maximum of three scoring judges serving as the jury. The scoring judges use 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. The scoring judges also determine the most effective witness and most effective attorney for each round. Should there only be two judges serving as jury members or an emergency with the third scoring judge, the scores are averaged for a third scoresheet and the presiding judge determines which team wins the third ballot. Scoresheets are mailed following all regional competitions and after all scoresheets have been verified. Scoresheets cannot be picked up in person, faxed, scanned, or e-mailed.

Introductions:

Once teams are in their respective courtrooms, students are asked to address the presiding judge and scoring judges providing only their names and roles in the competition (not their school name) at the beginning of each round.

Communication:

Any communication that takes place over the bar subjects the team to a strong point deduction or even disqualification. Visitors, coaches, and non-competing team members are to refrain from all communication with competing team members unless directed by the presiding judge. Any communication with the State and/or Regional Mock Trial Coordinators is made solely by the lead teacher/attorney coach. Any communication not from the lead teacher/attorney coach to the Regional and/or State Coordinator is considered to be in non-compliance of Rule 3.9 (Communication with Mock Trial Coordinators) and is subject to Rule 6.4 (Discipline for Non-Trial Violations). This rule is in place before and during the competition. All post-competition communication is solely by the lead teacher coach and/or attorney coach directed to the State Coordinator only. There is no reaching out to judges or Regional Coordinators post competition. Any post-competition communication not directed to the State Coordinator subjects the team to penalties up to disqualification the following school year.

Recess:

During the competition, up to a five minute recess is provided prior to closing arguments. Competing teams remain in front of the bar and are not permitted to leave the courtroom. Competing teams may only communicate with team members in front of the bar – no one behind the bar (coaches, remaining team members and/or visitors). The only people permitted to leave the courtroom during the recess are behind the bar. It is asked that everyone who chooses to remain in the courtroom stay seated quietly to allow the students in front of the bar to regroup for the closing arguments. For virtual competitions, there is no five minute recess.

Photography/Videography:

Video cameras and non-flash photography may be used during the competition only with the consent of the presiding judge and the opposing team. Flash pictures may not be taken during the competition. Upon approval, persons may take stationary pictures from the seated position. No movement in the courtroom for pictures is permitted. Team pictures are taken during the day by the lead teacher coach and texted to the regional coordinator during the day of the competition.

Number of Rounds:

If there is an even number of teams in a region, then there are three rounds with all teams competing in all three rounds. If there is an odd number of teams at a competition, see Rule 5.8 (Effect of Bye Round). Bye round means that one team is sitting out every round since there is an uneven number of teams. Bye teams may use this 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 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:

There is no eating permitted in most courthouses. Teams are also notified in advance that there is an undetermined start time for lunch, but teams need to plan for lunch at the first break only. The second break is shortened and intended for snacks only. There are very few, if any, restaurants within walking distance of the competition locations. Teams are to stay on the competition grounds and coaches/visitors either bring prepared food for lunch or go and pick up lunches for the team. Remember when planning for this lunch, students are to be seated in their respective courtrooms 15 minutes prior to each round and should plan on allowing time to re-enter the courthouse security. For virtual, teams should be online and registered 30 minutes prior to the next round.

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, coaches complete evaluations and collect team and visitor badges. The closing assembly starts after each team submits their red registration bag with all contents including clipboards, folders and team and visitor badges. The only thing removed from the red registration bag should be the certificates.

The closing assembly begins with the announcements of the most effective witnesses and most effective attorneys awarded by the scoring judges from each round. Award nominations made by the students in the courtrooms after each round are not re-announced at this assembly. In addition, the Professionalism and Civility Award determined by team nominations is awarded. The closing assembly concludes with the Regional Coordinator announcing the “proposed” advancing team to represent their region at the state competition. In addition to announcing the proposed regional winner, the next two highest ranking teams are announced as information only. Being announced as second and third place teams does not guarantee automatic advancement to the state competition. With one top proposed team from each regional competition announced, the remaining wild card teams are announced the Tuesday following the regional competitions by 5pm. There is a total of twelve teams competing in the state competition. With five regional winners, there will be seven wild card teams and three backup teams announced. See Rule 5.5 (Team Advancement to the State Competition) for clarification.

Scoresheets are reconfirmed following all regional competitions and the official teams are announced no later than the Tuesday following the last regional competition weekend by 5pm on the SC Bar Web site at www.sctbar.org/lre. Until certified by the SC Bar, 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.

There is a separate registration fee of \$150 for teams competing in the state competition. Lodging the Friday night of the competition may be needed for some teams as the competition takes place over two days. Teams are on their own for meals. Should a school not be able to afford the expenditures associated with this competition and forfeit their slot, the slot is offered to the next team according to rankings in the entire state. A school cannot forfeit their slot past the drop deadline date provided each year.



What to Expect at State Mock Trial Competitions *(in person)*

Teams / Visitor Badges: Note that there are only 24 visitor badges allotted per team. (Teacher and attorney coaches have separate team badges.) Also note that if there are more than 16 students on a middle school team and 14 students on a high school team, the remaining students need to wear visitor badges. There are only 24 visitor badges total available to each team. Teams should not feel like they have to use all 24 visitor badges as the courtrooms have limited seating and vary in size with each courtroom assignment. Like the regional competitions, a team's visitors cannot view a round without visitor badges that match their team's code.

Pairing/Room Assignments and Power Matching: The state competition has three rounds for all teams. After the third round, the top two teams are announced. The top teams will compete in two championship rounds alternating sides. All teams are seeded and powermatched in the first round by using teams' final standing earned at the regional competitions. Powermatching is a form of pairing teams that mirrors National High School Mock Trial, which cannot take place until all teams have completed a round. All subsequent rounds are powermatched based on the results of each round performed. When determining pairings for the subsequent rounds, it is possible that a team may perform a particular side more than once consecutively. It is guaranteed; however, that both sides of each team will have performed by the third round. Detailed information about rankings and powermatching can be found in the case materials. Lead teachers are texted on their cell phone no later than 10pm Friday night indicating the side of their third round performance for Saturday morning and their time for arrival and re-registration. Teams need to be seated in their assigned courtroom 15 minutes prior to each round beginning for in-person competitions and 30 minutes prior for virtual competitions. To reduce congestion, teams are asked to send a representative to check the boards and not have entire teams in the hallways checking boards.

Communication: Any communication that takes place over the bar subjects the team to a strong point deduction or even disqualification. Visitors, coaches, and non-competing team members are to refrain from all communication with competing team members unless directed by the presiding judge. Communication is directed solely to the State Coordinator and is made only by the lead teacher and/or attorney coaches. Any communication during the competition or post-competition not from the lead teacher and/or attorney coaches is considered to be in non-compliance of Rule 3.9 (Communication with Mock Trial Coordinators) and is subject to Rule 6.4 (Discipline for Non-Trial Violations). Everyone is encouraged to have cell phones off at all times while in the courtroom. Please be prepared for a very poor cell phone signal in this facility. If someone needs to reach you, it would be better via text rather than a cell phone call. Coaches are strongly discouraged from discussing rounds with other coaches during the state competition weekend.

Photography/Videography: Video cameras and photography are permitted in this courthouse. Use of these devices will be approved by both teams in each round. Permission in one round, does not guarantee permission in remaining rounds. All photos and videos are taken from a seated position and without devices blocking or distracting views of others.

Transitioning In and Out of Courtrooms: Visitors are asked to be respectful of both teams competing and only enter or exit the courtroom during a transition. A transition is when a witness is getting on or off the witness stand.

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 or an emergency with the third scoring judge, the scores are averaged for a third scoresheet and the presiding judge determines which team wins the third ballot. The scoring judges score each team on how well they

perform, their knowledge and understanding of the case itself and the trial process, not guilt or innocence. The scoring judges also determine the most effective witness and most effective attorney for each round in addition to the most effective determined by each team's opponent after each round. The championship rounds should have a larger scoring jury.

Recess: During the competition, the competing sides are given up to a five minute recess prior to their closing arguments. This is an opportunity for students in front of the bar to make adjustments to their closing argument. Students in front of the bar do not leave the courtroom nor have communication with anyone behind the bar. Only individuals behind the bar may leave the courtroom during the five minute recess. It cannot be stressed enough that there should be no communication across the bar at any time including the recess unless directed by the presiding judge.

Snack Breaks: As mentioned in the state letters, Friday's break allows teams to have snacks and beverages outside of the courthouse. No snacks or beverages are provided. Food and beverages (including water) are not to be brought into the courthouse. There will be an additional snack break between the two championship rounds on Saturday. Please dispose all garbage in trash cans.

Closing Assembly / Championship Round / Selection of Sides for Championship

Round: The Closing Assembly starts with the presentation of the regional advancement plaques. The most effective witnesses and attorneys are recognized from each round. At the conclusion, the top two teams competing in the two championship rounds are announced. Each of the top two teams' designated team members and lead teacher coaches come to the front of the award area for the official coin toss to determine sides performed prior to their first championship round. Once the coin toss is completed, the top two teams immediately leave the Closing Assembly and proceed to designated room for lunch. Guests associated with both teams join the two teams once the Closing Assembly is over. Guests associated with both teams do not need to re-apply visitor badges.

Saturday's Lunch: After the top teams are announced and the remaining ten teams are dismissed, a catered lunch from Chick-Fil-A will be provided to the top two teams and their guests. Both teams and their guests must eat in the designated room and not in the hallways. Guests of both teams are asked to allow team members to eat their lunch and meet with their coaches without interruption during this allotted time for lunch.

Announcing of State Winner: The proposed winner of the State Mock Trial Competition is announced approximately 15 to 20 minutes following the championship round. Scoresheets are reconfirmed following the competition day and the official team is announced the following Tuesday by 5pm on the SC Bar Web site. Until certified by the SC Bar, the State Mock Trial Champion is not finalized. The SC Bar reserves the right to correct any errors or omissions; therefore, any announcement of a team as the state champion and advancing to the next level of competition is subject to correction. Upon confirmation, the State High School Mock Trial Champion represents South Carolina at the 2021 National High School Mock Trial competition May 13 - 16, Evansville, Indiana. There is no national competition for middle school.

Presentation of Traveling Championship Cup: The presentation of Traveling Championship Cup will be presented to the team along with state championship certificates at the school's awards ceremony at the school's awards assembly. The State Championship Team and their respective school are responsible for the upkeep/security of the cup, while it is on display at the school. The traveling cup is returned at the following year's Regional Mock Trial competition.

Mock Trial Case Release Date

The Mock Trial case for 2021/22 is released online
at www.scbar.org/lre no later than 5 p.m. on:

Middle School and High School
August 13, 2021