



MOCK TRIAL NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2013

*Brought to you by the
Carolina Center for Civic Education and the NCAJ Mock Trial Committee
"Investing in our future, creating tomorrow's leaders"*

DRUG KINGPIN MURDERED IN ALLEY; COP CHARGED WITH CRIME!!

*By Robin Thomas, Investigative Reporter for Utopia Eyewitness News, WUNN
(AKA Sue H. Johnson, CCCE Mock Trial Program Coordinator)*

July 16, 2013: Breaking News!! 6 pm newscast transcript

Hello, this is reporter Robin Thomas with Utopia Eyewitness News. Decorated Utopia City Police Detective Quinn Penner has just been indicted by the grand jury for the murder of local drug kingpin Orson Hayes. On May 25, 2013, Hayes was gunned down in the alley behind Paradise Pub in Utopia City. At the time of his murder, Hayes was being sought by police for an attempted bank robbery on May 24. A local college student was shot and critically injured during the robbery when Detective Penner attempted to apprehend Hayes.

Orson Hayes's cousin, Lee Hayes, was an eyewitness to the shooting. According to our sources, Lee Hayes has identified Detective Penner as the murderer. Penner's indictment is a shock to many because of Penner's recognition as one of the top detectives in the department. Stay tuned for updates as this story develops.

August 1, 2013: 6 pm newscast transcript

Reporter Robin Thomas here. We have just learned that Utopia Zoo employee Sam Maddox will be testifying on behalf of Detective Quinn Penner in the Orson Hayes murder case. Maddox reportedly witnessed several drug deals conducted by Hayes on the outskirts of the zoo grounds. In fact, one of those encounters involved Taylor Malcolm, the former NBA basketball hopeful who lost his civil lawsuit against Utopia Zoo in 2011 and reportedly turned to dealing drugs soon afterward. I have a special interest in goings-on at Utopia Zoo, so we will stay on top of this intriguing new development.

September 12, 2013: 6 pm newscast transcript

Hello, this is reporter Robin Thomas. We have just learned that the Orson Hayes murder trial has been scheduled for **February 1, 2014**, a remarkably speedy trial date for such a high-profile case. District Attorney Samuel Ertle has assured WUNN that Penner's influential family will have no impact on the State's determination to prosecute this case. Defense attorney Janet W. Craige is equally determined to ensure that Penner is not made a scapegoat. Stay tuned; we at WUNN promise to provide up-to-date coverage of this "trial of the century!"

We at the CCCE are just as excited as reporter "Robin Thomas" about our new 2013-14 mock trial competition case! The original case idea was proposed by Lionel Earl, a former NCAJ mock trial program participant and current 2L at Penn State Law. Lionel wrote our 2010-11 "Utopia Zoo" competition case, which included reporter Robin Thomas, while an undergraduate at UNC. We are so pleased to have Lionel's continuing support of the program! Co-author Sue Johnson, CCCE Program Coordinator and author of our 2012-13 case, coached the NC team that won the state championship in 2011 (the year of Lionel's case). Lionel and Sue enjoyed working together on this criminal case and including references to both previous cases! Many thanks to Case Committee Chair Gordon Widenhouse, Sarah Jessica Farber, Michael Koeltzow, Chris Nichols, Katy Parker, and CCCE summer intern Samuel Johnson for their expertise and insights in refining this year's case.

The competition case was posted to our website on September 3, so student witnesses and attorneys are already hard at work, preparing the case for trial. Our Outreach Project continues apace, supporting and encouraging new schools to join the program. We already have a number of new schools that have registered! This year we anticipate needing even more presiding judges and scoring jurors at our eight Regional competition sites, so please set aside **February 1, 2014** on your calendar!

THANK YOU to the attorneys who have already agreed to serve as **attorney advisors** this season. As new schools register, we will be in touch with those new local attorneys who have contacted us and expressed a willingness to help. ***In addition, we need attorneys to advise teams in the following locations: DURHAM, RALEIGH, and MONROE (Union County).*** If you can help, please contact Program Coordinator Sue Johnson at SueHeathJohnson@gmail.com.

FOCUS ON VOLUNTEERS: CCCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

By Katherine Lewis Parker, Tin Fulton Walker & Owen, PLLC



I became involved with the Mock Trial program as a volunteer judge in Raleigh in 2007. I was so impressed with the program, and I very much regretted that I had never participated in a similar program in high school or college. I know that it would have served me well, particularly in the area of self-confidence. When I learned as a board member of NCAJ that the program was at risk in 2008, I promised to do what I could to help keep it going. As an attorney with a nonprofit, I didn't have a lot of money to pledge; so instead, I pledged my time.

I wrote a competition case problem one year on the use of Tasers by law enforcement, and after that, I have served as a case writer and/or editor each year. I also continue to serve as a judge, and even served as a site coordinator in Durham one year. It is always fun to see the case problem come alive, and I continue to be amazed at the level of dedication, talent and seriousness that the students bring to the competition. I'm proud of the program and proud to be a part of the CCCE Board of Directors.

CALENDAR 2013 – 2014 MOCK TRIAL SEASON

Early Registration Deadline	Friday, September 27, 2013
Final Team Registration Deadline	Friday, December 13, 2013
Registration Fee (\$150/team) Due	Friday, December 13, 2013
Team Member List, Code of Ethics, Release Forms Due	Friday, January 10, 2014
Last Day to Withdraw Without Penalty	Friday, January 10, 2014
Regional Competition (Final roster due)	Saturday, February 1, 2014
Widenhouse Award materials due	Wednesday, February 19, 2014
State Finals - Campbell Law School, Raleigh	Friday – Saturday, Feb. 28 - March 1, 2014
National Championship – Madison, WI	Thursday – Sunday, May 8-11, 2014

THANK YOU TO OUR 2013 – 2014 OUTREACH PROGRAM SPONSORS!

Lawyers Mutual Liability Insurance Company of North Carolina

We still need more sponsorship support to fully realize the goals of our outreach program. If you can join us in this important outreach, please contact Sue at SueHeathJohnson@gmail.com or CCCE Vice-President Rebecca Britton at rebecca@brittonlawfirm.com

THANK YOU TO OUR 2013 – 2014 COMPETITION SPONSORS!

State Finals: Rudolf Widenhouse & Fialko

Asheville: Melrose, Seago & Lay, P.A.
Charlotte: The Sumwalt Law Firm
Durham: The Law Offices of James Scott Farrin
Fayetteville: Britton Law, P.A.
Greenville: Hardee & Hardee, LLP
High Point: Crumley Roberts, LLP
Raleigh: Twiggs Strickland & Rabenau, P.A.
Wilmington: Shipman & Wright, LLP

CAMPBELL UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW - partnering with NCAJ to host our State Finals!

IT TAKES A VILLAGE . . .

Special thanks to Mock Trial Committee Members and Regional Coordinators who have agreed to serve for the 2013/2014 season: Mark Melrose (Asheville Regional Coordinator), Frances Knox and Paul Goodson (Charlotte Regional Coordinators), Russell Johnson (Durham Regional Coordinator), Philip Entzminger (Greenville Regional Coordinator), Rich Manger and Adrienne Blocker (High Point Regional Coordinators), Christine Scheef and Lindsey Granados (Raleigh Regional Coordinators), John H. Anderson, Jr., (Wilmington Regional Coordinator), Ken Campbell, Sheila Chavis, Laura Jenkins, Carlos Mahoney, Chris Nichols, John O'Neal, Katy Parker, Elizabeth Spruill, Mark Sumwalt, and Kim Vukovich.

Special thanks also to our Site Coordinators who have agreed to serve at Regionals in the 2013/2014 season! Asheville: Cindy Bryson, Charlotte: Beverly K. Moore, Durham: Patti Clapper, Fayetteville: Elizabeth Owens, Greenville: Kristin Miller; High Point: Karen Parrish, Raleigh: Lakisha Chichester and Fran LaFrankie, Wilmington: Brandy Jo Lea.

***If you are interested in serving on the NCAJ Mock Trial Committee, please contact either Sue Johnson, Program Coordinator, at sueheathjohnson@gmail.com, or Rebecca Britton or Gordon Widenhouse, Committee Co-Chairs, at rebecca@brittonlawfirm.com or mgwidenhouse@yahoo.com.*