

## **MOCK TRIAL NEWSLETTER**

*Brought to you by the NCAJ Mock Trial Committee*

**JANUARY 2010**

**"Investing in our future, creating tomorrow's leaders"**

**PHRASING (& PAGING) SCORING JURORS**

By Phil Entzminger  
Greenville, NC

Everyone knows the phrase "practice makes perfect." An excellent example of this motto in action is with the students involved in NCAJ's Mock Trial Competition. For the students competing in this year's contest, the preparation began many months ago. They have been putting together legal arguments, practicing opening statements, and learning rules of evidence that still leave seasoned lawyers scratching their heads. To be sure, in hopes of making their performance perfect, they are putting in countless hours of practice.

However, another motto that could be applied to the Mock Trial Competition is "jurors are needed." I know, I know - it's not quite as catchy as the practice expression (perhaps not enough alliteration). But nonetheless, this phrase rings true.

The Competition will take place Saturday, February 20th in Wilmington, Asheville, Durham, Fayetteville, High Point and Charlotte, and will consist of different "trials" throughout the day. The contest needs the time of both lawyers and judges to help make the competition a success. As a scoring juror, your job would be to sit back and observe some interesting arguments from some of the best legal minds our high schools have to offer. Your comments are invaluable to the competitors as they hone their litigation skills. The time commitment on your part is minimal: three hours at the most. But make no mistake, the impact is considerable.

Thus, I urge all attorneys and judges to consider volunteering their time for jury duty. With your help, we can help perfect the skills of tomorrow's practitioners.

Now that's a phrase that pays.

### **WE NEED YOU!!!**

**ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2010, WE WILL HAVE MORE THAN 650 STUDENTS ACROSS NORTH CAROLINA PARTICIPATING IN OUR MOCK TRIAL PROGRAM! WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU! PLEASE SIGN UP AND JOIN US FOR THE MORNING OR AFTERNOON ROUNDS AT A REGIONAL COMPETITION NEAR YOU!!!**

- WE NEED ATTORNEYS TO SERVE AS SCORING JURORS
- WE NEED JUDGES AND ATTORNEYS WITH MOCK TRIAL EXPERIENCE TO SERVE AS PRESIDING JUDGES
- WE NEED LEGAL ASSISTANTS TO SERVE AS SITE VOLUNTEERS

IF YOU CAN'T MAKE IT FOR ONE OF OUR REGIONAL COMPETITIONS ON FEBRUARY 20, JOIN US IN RALEIGH FOR THE STATE FINAL CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITION AT CAMPBELL LAW SCHOOL ON SATURDAY, MARCH 20! To volunteer for State Finals, click [here](#). **HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

Click [here](#) to complete and fax in or email our volunteer form to Rebecca Britton. FAX: (910) 884-3926, E-MAIL: [Rebecca.britton@hsbfirm.com](mailto:Rebecca.britton@hsbfirm.com) (To volunteer for State Finals on March 20, click [here](#).)

*Or contact a coordinator at a site near you to volunteer your time on February 20, 2010, as a judge, scoring juror, or site volunteer!*

Judges/scoring jurors

Site volunteers

**WILMINGTON:**

Ken Campbell [krcampbell@att.net](mailto:krcampbell@att.net)

Debi Welsh [debi@lawyeraseast.com](mailto:debi@lawyeraseast.com)

**FAYETTEVILLE:**

Becky Britton

Diane Long [dll@beaverholt.com](mailto:dll@beaverholt.com)

[Rebecca.britton@hsbfirm.com](mailto:Rebecca.britton@hsbfirm.com)

**DURHAM:**

Russell Johnson [rjohnson@hsfh.com](mailto:rjohnson@hsfh.com)

Patti Clapper [patti@levineandstewart.com](mailto:patti@levineandstewart.com)

**HIGH POINT**

Rich Manger [ram@mangerlaw.com](mailto:ram@mangerlaw.com)

Karen Parish [kwparrish@bellsouth.net](mailto:kwparrish@bellsouth.net)

**CHARLOTTE**

Paul Goodson [pgoodson@pgoodsonlaw.com](mailto:pgoodson@pgoodsonlaw.com) Beverly King [bev@tissuelaw.com](mailto:bev@tissuelaw.com)

**ASHEVILLE**

Mark Melrose

Cindy Bryson

[Melrose@mountainverdict.com](mailto:Melrose@mountainverdict.com)

[Bryson@mountainverdict.com](mailto:Bryson@mountainverdict.com)

***Would you like to coach a team? There is still time!*** Contact Rebecca Britton at [Rebecca.britton@hsbfirm.com](mailto:Rebecca.britton@hsbfirm.com) or at (910) 864-6888 if you can help out a team in ***Goldsboro*** or a team in ***Fayetteville!***

***How about co-sponsoring our Asheville Regional Competition! The 28th Judicial District Bar has stepped up to contribute. Full sponsorship for the Asheville Regional Competition is \$3,500. We are looking for firms to join in the effort to fully sponsor Asheville. Sponsorship covers most costs of operating the regional competition and sponsors are noted and recognized at the regional event and in our newsletter, brochures and programs.***

*For more information on the NCAJ High School Mock Trial Program, visit the NCAJ website at [www.ncaj.com](http://www.ncaj.com), click on "Public Information" and "Mock Trial".*

**Special thanks to Mock Trial Committee Members and Regional Coordinators:** Paul Goodson and Jackie Smith (Charlotte Regional Coordinators), Rich Manger, Adrienne Blocker and Celeste Harris (High Point Regional Coordinators), Ken Campbell and Andy McVey (Wilmington Regional Coordinators), Russell Johnson, Carlos Mahoney and Katy Parker (Durham Regional Coordinators), Mark Melrose (Asheville Regional Coordinator), Michelle Robertson, John O'Neal, Chris Nichols, Mark Sumwalt, Elizabeth Kuniholm and Steve Schmidley. Committee Co-Chairs: Gordon Widenhouse (State Finals Coordinator) and Rebecca Britton (Fayetteville Regional Coordinator)

**Special thanks also to members of the Legal Assistant's Division who have agreed to serve as site coordinators!**

**Asheville:** Debbie Dante, Susan Gaddis, and Cindy Bryson, **Charlotte:** Beverly King, **Durham:** Patti Clapper, **Fayetteville:** Diane Long, Beth Owens, Faith Adams, **High Point:** Karen Parrish, **Wilmington:** Debi Welsh, Brandy Lea Balderson

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Mock Trial 2009/2010 Calendar:**

Payment/Rosters deadline: 1/13/10

**REGIONAL COMPETITIONS: 2/20/10**

**STATE FINAL COMPETITION: 3/20/10**

### **Thank you to the following sponsors/contributors to the Mock Trial**

#### **Program:**

The Florence L. Rogers Charitable Trust

Regional Sponsors for 09/10 season:

Charlotte: The Sumwalt Law Firm

Fayetteville: Hutchens, Senter & Britton, P.A.

High Point: Crumley Roberts, LLP

Durham: Glenn, Mills, Fisher & Mahoney, P.A.

Wilmington: Shipman & Wright, LLP

State Finals: Rudolf, Widenhouse & Fialko

*28th Judicial District Bar - helping to support the Asheville Regional Competition*

**Individual Pledges:** Doug & Peggy Abrams, Mike Anderson, Brad Bannon, Don Beskind, Janet Ward Black, Steve Bowden, Cliff Britt, Becky Britton, Wade Byrd, Heidi Chapman, Joe Cheshire, John Cox, Burton Craige, Kathleen Glancy, Gary Jackson, Lucy Inman, David Kirby, Albert Kirby, Liz Kuniholm, Carlos Mahoney, Andy McVey, Mark Melrose, Phillip Miller, Chuck Monnett, Chris Nichols, Annemarie Pantazis, Katy Parker, Spencer Parris, Doug Parsons, Karen Rabenau, Lloyd Smith, Adam Stein, Don Strickland, Mark Sumwalt, Hank Teich, Hoyt Tessener, Howard Twiggs, Bob Whitely, Elise Whitley, James Williams, Tricia and Tacker LeCarpentier.

***Thomas, Ferguson & Mullins, LLP, Durham, NC:*** Sponsors of our teacher training workshops held in Raleigh and Greensboro

***Mark Valentine - The Visual Advantage, Raleigh, NC:*** Donating regional competition signs, and signs and exhibits for state finals

***Larry Wolfe - Wolfe Audiovisual Productions, Fayetteville, NC :*** Donating audiovisual services for promotional videos and filming teacher training workshop and Championship round at State Finals.

**CAMPBELL UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW** - partnering with NCAJ to host our state final competition!