



## MOCK TRIAL NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2018

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

### **SMILE! AMAZON MAKES IT EASY TO SUPPORT MOCK TRIAL**

*By Sue H. Johnson  
CCCE State Coordinator*



*State Finals Runners-Up East Chapel Hill High School White sport their finalists baseball caps: "Mock is Lit!"*

**Each year, more than 750** high school students participate in the North Carolina Advocates for Justice High School Mock Trial program. Beginning in September, dedicated teacher-coaches and attorney advisors guide the students as they enthusiastically prepare for trial. In February, nearly 90 teams, representing schools from the mountains to the coast, demonstrate their legal knowledge and skills at our nine regional competitions. This year, twelve teams advanced to state finals, where last year's state and national champion, the Central Carolina Homeschoolers, earned the chance to defend their title at Nationals in Reno, NV in May. In July, dozens of new and returning students will descend on Chapel Hill for our whirlwind 4-day summer camp, culminating in a trial scrimmage on the final day (see next article). Clearly, inspiring and educating our future leaders is an exciting, year-round endeavor!

**As the program has expanded**, so has the need for resources to make it possible. The expense of developing training and case materials – provided to teams at no charge – has risen. Courthouse security fees have increased, as have the costs to provide refreshments and materials to our volunteers. Team memorabilia – sports bags, lanyards, T-shirts, finalist hats – provide the students with fun keepsakes, but sponsorship dollars only partially offset these costs. Moneys are required for staff travel to on-site team training sessions, regional competitions, and the national championship, as well as to highlight our program accomplishments at the NCAJ convention.



**How can you help?** Tax-deductible donations are always appreciated, and you can give directly to the CCCE on our website at <https://ncmocktrial.org/get-involved/donate/>. But you can also support the CCCE every time you shop online at Amazon – through **AmazonSmile!**



**At AmazonSmile**, you can choose the nonprofit Carolina Center for Civic Education to receive donations based on your Amazon purchases. AmazonSmile donates 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases whenever you shop; it's a simple way to support the CCCE every time, at no cost to you! How? Simply use (and bookmark) the following link: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/55-0844105>.

**You can also visit** <https://smile.amazon.com/> directly and type in “Carolina Center for Civic Education” when prompted to select a charitable organization. That’s all there is to it! The shopping experience is the same as for purchases made on Amazon.com; there is no cost to AmazonSmile customers or to the CCCE.

**We are immensely proud** of all of our participants and deeply appreciate the hundreds of attorneys, teachers, paralegals, and others who devote their time and expertise to inspiring these future leaders. Many of our volunteers – attorneys and teachers alike – are program alumni who have chosen to “pay it forward” by investing in our students, just as others invested in them.

**Whether you already** mentor a team or judge at our competitions, or are presently unable to devote your time to mock trial, we hope you will consider utilizing AmazonSmile to support this worthwhile activity. By designating the CCCE as your charitable organization, you can be a vital part of helping the CCCE to “invest in our future” and “create tomorrow’s leaders.” Thank you!



# **CCCE HOSTS OUR 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SUMMER CAMP!**

By Sue H. Johnson  
CCCE State Coordinator



**On Wednesday, July 25**, dozens of enthusiastic high school students and coaches will descend on Chapel Hill for our 6<sup>th</sup> annual high school mock trial camp, hosted on the UNC campus. During our 4-day camp, students will learn about all aspects of mock trial, including how to create memorable case theories and themes, compelling witness portrayals, persuasive direct and cross examinations, and powerful opening and closing statements.

**The camp is targeted** toward rising ninth- to

twelfth-graders. Campers may register for either Basic or Advanced levels of instruction; Basic level, designed for those with less than one year of prior high school mock trial experience, covers foundational information in more detail. Students who have middle school mock trial experience should register for the Basic sessions, as the high school program is much more comprehensive. Campers may choose to come for the day or to stay overnight in a campus dorm.



**Individual campers, as well as groups**, are encouraged to attend! All registrants will be placed on camp teams, who will be coached by an experienced college “mocker” as the students prepare one side of a civil case for Saturday morning. Family members and friends are encouraged to join us for these trials.

**Early bird registration ends on May 19**, so don’t wait! The final deadline for registration and payment of fees is June 29. For more information, visit our website at <https://ncmocktrial.org/camps/ccce-summer-camps/> or contact Sue Johnson at [SueHeathJohnson@gmail.com](mailto:SueHeathJohnson@gmail.com).

## **CALENDAR 2017 – 2018 MOCK TRIAL SEASON**

National Championship, Reno, NV  
Mock Trial Summer Camp, Chapel Hill

May 10-12, 2018  
July 25-28, 2018

## **THANK YOU TO OUR 2017 – 2018 COMPETITION SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS!**

State Finals:	Ward Black Law
Asheville:	Melrose Law and TBD
<i>Supporter:</i>	28 <sup>th</sup> Judicial District Bar Association & Asheville Area Paralegal Assn.
Fayetteville:	Britton Law, P.A.
<i>Supporter:</i>	Cumberland County Bar Association

Gastonia: The Sumwalt Law Firm  
Greenville: Hardee & Hardee, LLP  
High Point: Manger Law Firm  
Pittsboro: Glenn Mills Fisher & Mahoney, P.A.  
Raleigh: Twiggs Strickland & Rabenau, P.A. & Maurer Law  
Salisbury: Rowan County Bar Association  
Wilmington: Shipman & Wright, LLC  
Supporter: New Hanover County Bar Association

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

**THANK YOU TO OUR 2017 – 2018 OUTREACH PROGRAM SPONSOR!**

**Lawyers Mutual Liability Insurance Company of North Carolina**

***IT TAKES A VILLAGE . . .***

***Special thanks to our 2017-18 Regional Coordinators and CCCE Board Members: Asheville Regional Coordinator Mark Melrose, Fayetteville Regional Coordinator Rebecca Britton, Gastonia Regional Coordinators Holden Clark and Daniel O'Shea, Greenville Regional Coordinator Phil Entzminger, High Point Regional Coordinator Rich Manger, Pittsboro Regional Coordinator Robert Jessup and Russell Johnson, Raleigh Regional Coordinators Christine Scheef and Lindsey Granados, Salisbury Regional Coordinator Darrin Jordan, Wilmington Regional Coordinator John H. Anderson, Jr.; and CCCE Board Members Gordon Widenhouse, Rebecca Britton, Rich Manger, Bradley Bannon, Adrienne Blocker, Christine Scheef, Brooke Schmidly, Mark Sumwalt; Valerie Johnson (ex officio).***

***Special thanks also to our 2017-18 Site Coordinators:***

***Asheville: Brett Pinkston, Fayetteville: Tanja Shurling and Karen Kueny, Gastonia: Beverly K. Moore, Greenville: Jeffrey Cannon, High Point: Rose Pratt, Pittsboro: Patti Clapper, Raleigh: Michelle Keely, Salisbury: Emily Applewhite, and Wilmington: Brandi Jo Lea.***

***\*\*If you are interested in supporting or learning more about the NCAJ High School Mock Trial program, please contact Sue Johnson, State Coordinator, at [sueheathjohnson@gmail.com](mailto:sueheathjohnson@gmail.com), or Rebecca Britton or Gordon Widenhouse, Mock Trial Committee Co-Chairs, at [rebecca@brittonlawfirm.com](mailto:rebecca@brittonlawfirm.com) or [mgwidenhouse@yahoo.com](mailto:mgwidenhouse@yahoo.com).***