



## MOCK TRIAL NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2019

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Carolina Center for Civic Education  
"Investing in our future, creating tomorrow's leaders"*

### **TWELVE TEAMS ADVANCE TO STATE FINALS IN RALEIGH!**

*By Susan H. Johnson, CCCE State Coordinator*



**On Saturday, Feb. 2, more than 800 students** and their family and friends entered courthouses across the state, excited to present the case of *Rory Thomas v. Arya Davis, M.D.* in our 27<sup>th</sup> NCAJ High School Mock Trial Regional Competition. Ninety-two teams took part in the event – our largest field ever! – proud to showcase their best trial advocacy skills as they argued whether Dr. Arya Davis was liable for medical malpractice in Sloane Thomas’s death by an opioid overdose. During their preparations, students learned, not only about civil law and courtroom procedures, but also about an important topic gripping our nation. In the process, students also gained self-confidence, persuasive speaking experience, and leadership skills.



After three intense rounds, the following teams earned the right to compete at State Finals, hosted once again by Campbell Law School in Raleigh, on March 8-9:

**Durham Regional Champion:**  
**Fayetteville Regional Champion:**  
**Gastonia Regional Champion:**  
**Greenville Regional Champion:**  
**Hendersonville Regional Champion:**  
**High Point Regional Champion:**  
**Raleigh Regional Champion:**  
**Salisbury Regional Champion:**  
**Wilmington Regional Champion:**  
**At-Large Teams:**

Chapel Hill High School Black  
Village Christian Academy Purple  
Gray Stone Day School KFC  
J.H. Rose High School Green  
Hendersonville High School Cats  
Central Carolina Homeschoolers Veritas  
Central Carolina Homeschoolers Lux  
Gaston Christian School White  
Unity Mock Trial Black  
Chapel Hill High School Gold  
East Chapel Hill High School White  
J.H. Rose High School Blue



**THANK YOU** to the many legal professionals who volunteered their time as presiding judges, scoring jurors, and site volunteers at the Regional competitions. Altogether, **14 judges, 378 attorneys, 102 paralegals or paralegal students, and 11 law students** volunteered their time to make the Regional competitions a success. We could not have done it without you!

### **CASE BALANCE: WE DID IT AGAIN!**

*By Susan H. Johnson, CCCE State Coordinator*

Ninety-two teams took part in our nine regional competitions on February 2, 2019. Because we know students and teachers invest untold hours in their case preparations, we strive to create cases that are educational, balanced, and thought-provoking. This year's original civil medical malpractice case dealt with an important issue facing our society: the opioid epidemic and deaths from an opioid overdose.



Since 2012-13 we have tracked case balance at our Regional competitions and are pleased that, each year, our cases have proved to be well-balanced, making the outcome of each trial dependent upon the students' own skills rather than upon the "luck of the draw." Once again, our 2018-19 case was



exceptional in that regard: across all preliminary rounds statewide, the prosecution won 51.1% and the defense won 48.9% (47 trials to 45 trials). The ballot statistics were even better: 49.6% of ballots (137) went to the plaintiff, while 50.4% (139) went to the defense. Kudos to our case authors and reviewers for this outstanding accomplishment!

All of us at the CCCE want to provide our students with the best possible educational and competition experience.

We are pleased we have again delivered a case that was enjoyable and fair to both sides. If you'd like to be involved in this outstanding educational program, please contact State Coordinator Sue Johnson at [SueHeathJohnson@gmail.com](mailto:SueHeathJohnson@gmail.com).



### **CALENDAR 2018 – 2019 MOCK TRIAL SEASON**

Widenhouse Award Nomination Materials Due  
State Finals Competition  
National Championship, Athens, GA

Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2019  
Fri. – Sat., March 8-9, 2019  
May 16-18, 2019

### **THANK YOU TO OUR 2018 – 2019 COMPETITION SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS!**

State Finals:	Ward Black Law
Durham:	Glenn Mills Fisher & Mahoney, P.A. <i>and STILL NEEDED</i> , Co-Sponsors
<i>Supporters:</i>	Durham County Bar Association <i>and Olive &amp; Olive</i>
Fayetteville:	Britton Law, P.A.
<i>Supporter:</i>	Cumberland County Bar Association
Gastonia:	The Sumwalt Law Firm
Greenville:	Hardee & Hardee, LLP
Hendersonville:	The Van Winkle Law Firm
<i>Supporter:</i>	Asheville Area Paralegal Association
High Point:	Manger Law Firm
Raleigh:	<i>STILL NEEDED!</i>
Salisbury:	Rowan County Bar Association
Wilmington:	Shipman & Wright, LLP

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

## **THANK YOU TO OUR 2018 – 2019 OUTREACH PROGRAM SPONSOR!**

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

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

***Special thanks to our 2018-19 Regional Coordinators and CCCE Board Members: Durham Regional Coordinators Robert Jessup and Drew Haywood, Fayetteville Regional Coordinator Rebecca Britton, Gastonia Regional Coordinators Holden Clark and Daniel O’Shea, Greenville Regional Coordinator Nancy Ray, Hendersonville Regional Coordinators Mary Ann Hollocker and Beth Stang, High Point Regional Coordinator Rich Manger, Raleigh Regional Coordinators Christine Scheef and Lindsey Granados, Salisbury Regional Coordinator Darrin Jordan, Wilmington Regional Coordinator John H. Anderson, Jr.; and CCCE Board Members Rebecca Britton (President/Treasurer), Rich Manger (Vice President), Adrienne Blocker (Secretary), Bradley Bannon, Christine Scheef, Brooke Schmidly, Mark Sumwalt; Mary Pollard (ex officio), Sonya Pfeiffer (ex officio).***

### ***Special thanks also to our 2018-19 Site Coordinators:***

***Durham: Patti Clapper, Fayetteville: Tanja Shurling and Karen Kueny, Gastonia: Stephanie Elliott, Greenville: Sandi Baughman-Egan, Hendersonville: Leigh Ann Allen, High Point: Kayla Neil and Rebecca Robinson, Raleigh: Michelle Keely, Salisbury: Emily Applewhite, and Wilmington: Courtenay E. Byrd.***

