

JULY-AUGUST 2020 MOCK TRIAL NEWS

RECAP OF THIS YEAR'S VIRTUAL MOCK TRIAL SUMMER CAMP

In late July, 48 high school students receive a crash course in mock trial with the North Carolina Mock Trial Program! The students came together online from across North Carolina and from other states including California, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New York, Virginia and Washington, DC. Over half of the students had no prior mock trial experience but they caught up quickly. One student said: *I really liked how the camp was able to cover so much information and actually prepare us for a trial in only a few days*.

The campers received online instruction from experienced mock trial coaches **Darren Allen**, **Hailey Bunce, Kelli Clancy, Laura Clark, Amanda Perry** and **Nicole Winget** and were also mentored by 6 Campbell University School of Law mock trial team members and 7 UNC-Charlotte/UNC-Chapel Hill mock trial team members who helped prepare them for an online scrimmage held on Saturday, July 25; those talented, supportive and friendly mentors are names below. One student provided this feedback: *my mentor always believed in us and always looked on the positive side of things....I learned a lot from him*.

The scrimmage trials on Zoom were presided by attorneys **Darren Allen, Aries Brinson, S. Quon Bridges, Dean Loven,** and by NCMTP Board Members **Andy McVey** and **Brooke Schmidly**. The students worked in teams of four to try one side of the *State v. Randy Dagger* murder case. Click the below links to see some of the students in action! <u>Opening | Direct Exam | Cross Exam | Closing</u>

Hope you consider joining us next summer! As one student summed it up: *this was a great way to learn about mock trial while meeting new people and practicing public speaking skills.*

A HUGE "THANK YOU" TO OUR VOLUNTEER INSTRUCTORS AND STAFF!!

Instructors: Darren Allen, Hailey Bunce, Kelli Clancy, Laura Clark, Amanda Perry and Nicole Winget

<u>Presiding Judges</u>: Darren Allen, Aries Brinson, S. Quon Bridges, Dean Loven, Andy McVey and Brooke Schmidly

<u>Mentors and Volunteers</u>: Jordan Arroyo, Meagan Beacham, Georgia Bronson, Sue Gray, Jessica Gross, Matt Hobbs (curriculum editor), Linnea Howe, Brandon Irabor, Danielle Lucido, Kelsey Myers, Daniel Nelson, Jasmine Orsini, Josh Steedly, Macy Stutts and Gray Triandiflou



ANNOUNCEMENT : FORMAT OF THE 2020-2021 MOCK TRIAL SEASON

The North Carolina Mock Trial Program Board appreciates the entire mock trial community and all they have had to do to adjust to our current temporary national health crisis.

IMPORTANT NEWS: Given current trends and predictions, the North Carolina Mock Trial Program has planned an **online regional mock trial competition** for **February 5 and 6, 2021** (1.5 day event). All details about the online regional competition will be published in the NCMTP 2020-2021 Rules booklet and uploaded to <u>ncmocktrial.org</u> in September. The online competition rules have been drafted in coordination with the National High School Mock Trial Championship. The North Carolina (civil) competition case will be published online on **Friday**, **September 4, 2020**.

If the crisis situation improves and an in-person regional competition at courthouses across the state becomes possible, the NCMTP will announce its decision to move to hosting in-person regional competitions (with social distancing if needed) <u>no later than/before</u> December 1, 2020. Also, at this time, we are planning/hoping to host an in-person State Finals competition (with social distancing if needed) in Raleigh on March 5-6, 2021.

Current/Prospective teachers and attorney coaches -- we want to hear your thoughts about the above plan and your ability to field a team(s) in an online regional competition on February 5 and 6, 2021; please fill out this SURVEY and let us know.

What does online mock trial look like? Our short camp videos linked above give you a small sense but please note that the regional competition will include more comprehensive policies and procedures to ensure a quality event for all involved! This year, the NC Mock Trial Program will also coordinate online scrimmages and online teacher trainings.

Announcing the CALENDAR 2020 – 2021 MOCK TRIAL SEASON

Competition Case Released! Early Registration Deadline Final Registration Deadline and \$275 Team Fee Due Friday, Sept. 4, 2020 Friday, Sept. 25, 2020 Friday, Dec. 11, 2020 Team Member List, Code of Ethics, Release Forms Due **Last Day to Withdraw Without Penalty** Regional Competition Widenhouse Award Nomination Materials Due State Finals Competition National Championship, Evansville, IN Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2021 Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2021 Fri. – Sat, Feb. 5-6, 2021 Wednesday, Feb. 17, 2021 Fri. – Sat., March 5-6, 2021 Thurs. – Sat., May 13-15, 2021

HELP US EXPAND MOCK TRIAL IN THE STATE AT NO COST TO YOU!

Did you know? **AmazonSmile** is a simple way to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you! Will you consider setting up your Amazon account to support NC High School Mock Trial? One click <u>here</u> is all it takes. Please give high school students the chance to learn critically important life skills with the NC Mock Trial Program at no cost to you.

WELCOMING NEW BOARD MEMBER DAVID HENSON

The NC Mock Trial Program is grateful to former NC Advocates for Justice President **Vernon Sumwalt** for his service on the NCMTP Board and is also pleased to welcome NCAJ's current President **David Henson** to the NCMTP Board, who is serving as an *ex officio* member. <u>Learn</u> more about the NCMTP Board.

NCMTP REGIONAL & SITE COORDINATORS

The below group of attorneys and paralegals generously shared their time to recruit volunteers and to expertly host students, parents, teachers and attorney coaches at their competition site last season. Their roles will look different at the online competition but we are grateful for their support and time. The Greenville Regional Coordinator role is open in 2021. **Are you interested in joining this team and volunteering with mock trial?** Please email <u>us</u> for details. Learn more about our terrific volunteer leaders at <u>nemocktrial.org/supporters</u>.

Regional Coordinators:

Fayetteville	Rebecca Britton
Gastonia	Holden Clark and Daniel O'Shea
Greenville	tbd
Hendersonville	Mary Ann Hollocker
Hickory	tbd
High Point	Rich Manger
Hillsborough	Drew Haywood and Rebecca Ugolick
Raleigh	Lindsey Granados and Christine Scheef
Salisbury	John Basinger
Wilmington	John H. Anderson, Jr.

Site Coordinators:

Fayetteville	Tanja Shurling
Gastonia	Beverly Moore and Jacqueline Thurman
Greenville	Sandi Baughman-Egan
Hendersonville	Melanie Miller
Hickory	tbd
High Point	Grace Lay
Hillsborough	Patti Clapper
Raleigh	Michelle Keely
Salisbury	Nathaniel Drum
Wilmington	Catherine Holland and Rachel Royal

NCMTP Board Members: Rebecca Britton (President), Rich Manger (Vice President), Andrew McVey (Treasurer), Adrienne Blocker (Secretary), Helen Baddour, Bradley Bannon, Drew Haywood, Christine Scheef, Brooke Schmidly, Mark Sumwalt, and David Henson (ex officio)

<u>A BIG THANK YOU TO LAST YEAR'S COMPETITION SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS</u>



NCAJ High School Mock Trial Competition Program Sponsor: NC Advocates for Justice Program Outreach Sponsor: Lawyers Mutual Liability Insurance Company of North Carolina

State Finals Sponsor: State Finals Host: The Sumwalt Law Firm Campbell University School of Law

Regional Sponsors

Fayetteville: Supporter: Gastonia: Greenville: Hendersonville: Supporter: Hickory: High Point: Hillsborough: Raleigh:

Salisbury: Wilmington: Britton Law, P.A. Cumberland County Bar Association Mullen Holland & Cooper, P.A. & Roberts Law Firm, P.A. Hardee & Hardee, LLP The Van Winkle Law Firm Asheville Area Paralegal Association The Law Office of Jason E. Taylor, P.C. Manger Law Firm Patterson Harkavy LLP The Law Offices of John M. McCabe, P.A. & Settlement Planning Services, LLC Rowan County Bar Association Shipman & Wright, LLP