



OCTOBER 2021 MOCK TRIAL NEWS

Welcome New Attorney Advisors!

We are honored to announce that attorneys **Jennifer Chandler, Latasia Fields, Amy Gurendel, Neubia Harris, Michele Livingstone, Scott Lowry, and Corey Stanton**, and law student **Sharis Manokian** have joined the NC Mock Trial Program as new team advisors. We thank them and all other NCMTP teachers and advisors for their excellent mentoring; [full list](#).

Attorney advisor needed

The Chatham School of Science and Engineering (Siler City) needs an attorney mentor to help them prepare for the Feb 2022 NCAJ High School Mock Trial Competition! The NCMTP offers attorney advisors plenty of support including this [list of suggested activities](#) and all of these [student training materials](#). *NC Attorneys: Can you help (either remotely or in person)?* Your role as mentor will be forever remembered by these students. If available to help, please email liz@ncmocktrial.org.

The Defendant Donna O'Grady

We hope all students saw our [second 2021-22 case clarification](#). At trial, the Fifth Amendment gives the criminally accused the right not to testify. This means that the prosecutor, the judge, and even the accused's own lawyer cannot force the accused to take the witness stand against their will. In *State of Utopia v. O'Grady*, Donna O'Grady is exercising her **Fifth Amendment** right not to testify. However, the **Sixth Amendment** provides that a person accused of a crime has the right to confront a witness against him or her in a criminal action. This includes the right to be present at the trial.

It's rare to have a high school mock trial case where the defendant is not a witness! In light of the unique circumstances of this mock trial case, teams ARE ALLOWED to have an official team member sit at counsel table during trial to pose as the accused (optional) (a non-speaking/non-testifying/non-scored role). Additionally, for purposes of the competition, no team is permitted to comment in argument or testimony on the absence or presence of the accused at trial.

Post script: A third case clarification has been posted to correct a point of U.S. history: The U.S. military did not have a presence in Afghanistan when Dan O'Grady and Cameron Kravitz were in the Army; therefore, line 37 of Kravitz's affidavit has been adjusted to read "the Middle East".

Fall/winter scrimmage practice

If you have not yet, don't forget to [register your team](#) to get case materials sent in the mail! Schools marked with **no** asterisk [here](#) have not yet registered for the 2022 competition. Registered teams can also sign up to take part in a winter scrimmage (either online or in person) with another mock trial team at a time of your choosing. Sign up to receive a scrimmage pairing for the season soon! The NCMTTP will ensure that you will not see your scrimmage team pairing at regionals. <https://ncmocktrial.org/team-scrimmages/>.

Student Preparation tip: Watch a recording of your performance

We recommend recording yourself as you practice your role, whether you are conducting a direct or cross or giving an opening statement or closing argument. Share the video with your coach, family member for feedback.

NC Attorneys Needed as Scoring Jurors and Presiding Judges on Feb 5

Attorneys in North Carolina: We hope you will consider saving the Feb 5, 2022 date to help as judge or juror at the students' next regional-level competition! We are expecting ~ 90 high school teams to compete at courthouses throughout the state; all regional events will follow any covid-19-related protocols needed at the time. Saturday, Feb 5 volunteer time slots (which include time for orientation) are 8:45 am-11:30 am, 12:45 pm -3:15 pm and 3:30-6:15 p.m. [Volunteer form](#)

Mock Trial State Finals T-Shirt Design

Are you a student or teacher with an idea for this year's **State Finals t-shirt/hat design**? Email liz@ncmocktrial.org with your recommendation of a short saying based on this year's case - or mock trial generally - for potential printing on the 2022 State Finals shirt and hat. Respondents will **be entered into a raffle for a chance to win a prize**. Past examples: Mock On; Got Mock; Mockstar.

2021-2022 Mock Trial Season Calendar

Team Registration Closes | Friday, December 10, 2021

Sign Notice of Withdrawal Deadlines Form; \$326 Team Fee Due | Friday, December 10, 2021

Team Member List, Code of Ethics, Student Release Forms Due | Thursday, January 6, 2022

Last Day to Withdraw without Penalty | Thursday, January 6, 2022

Regional Competition | Saturday, February 5, 2022

Widenhouse Award Nomination Materials Due at 5 pm | Wednesday, Feb 16, 2022

State Finals Competition, Raleigh, NC | Fri-Sat, March 18-19, 2022

National Championship, Kalamazoo, MI | Thurs-Sat, May 5-7, 2022

NCMTTP Regional and Site Coordinators

The below group of attorneys and paralegals generously volunteer their time to make mock trial competition run smoothly each year. Learn more about all coordinators at

<https://ncmocktrial.org/supporters>. We thank both our new coordinators and long-time coordinators very much:

Regional Coordinators

- Fayetteville: Rebecca Britton and Jordan Godwin
- Gastonia: Holden Clark and Ivana Hughes
- Greenville: Meredith Hinton
- Hendersonville: Mary Ann Hollocker

- Hickory: Blia Vang
- 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: Jacqueline Thurman
- Greenville: Sandra Strickland and Caitlin Tatum
- Hendersonville: Melanie Miller
- Hickory: Bianca Lopez
- High Point: Grace Lay
- Hillsborough: Patti Clapper
- Raleigh: Michelle Keely and Amanda Miller
- Salisbury: Alicia Coggins, Connie Cassatt, Deandra Hall
- 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 John McCabe (ex officio)

Announcing our 2021-2022 Competition Sponsors and Supporters



NCAJ High School Mock Trial Competition Program Sponsor: North Carolina Advocates for Justice

Program Outreach Sponsors: ABOTA Foundation & Lawyers Mutual Liability Insurance Company of North Carolina

State Finals Sponsor: Sumwalt Anderson Law Firm

Regional Sponsors

- Fayetteville: Britton Law
- Gastonia: Holden B. Clark, Atty at Law, PLLC and to be announced

- Greenville: Hardee, Massey, Blodgett, LLP
- Hendersonville: The Van Winkle Law Firm and Melrose Law
- Hickory: The Law Office of Jason E. Taylor and Orndoff Law Firm
- High Point: High Point Bar Association
- Hillsborough: Patterson Harkavy LLP and to be announced
- Raleigh: Settlement Planning Services, LLC & Maginnis Howard
- Salisbury: 19C Judicial Bar
- Wilmington: Shipman & Wright, LLP