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## February 2023 Mock Trial News

### **ROCKING IT LIVE IN OUR COURTROOMS AROUND THE STATE!!**

It was wonderful and amazing to be back to our in-person competitions on Saturday, February 4th! While remote was better than not having the competition at all for the last two years, nothing comes close to the learning experience our students have when they sit in a real courtroom at the counsel table and on the witness stand with a presiding judge on the bench and jurors in the jury box! Over 300 attorneys and judges and over 70 legal professionals supported our regions across the state in Fayetteville, Gastonia, Hendersonville, High Point, Hillsborough, Raleigh, Salisbury, and Wilmington. As we say, it takes a village of volunteers to make this competition successful for our students and our “village” definitely came through for our 72 teams entering courthouses across the state that Saturday. The following are our regional champions, runners-up, best attorney and best witness awards and winning courtroom artists:

#### **REGIONAL CHAMPIONS AND RUNNERS-UP**

**Fayetteville:** Village Christian Academy

Runner-up: Green Hope High School

**Gastonia:** Covenant Day School

Runner-up: Gray Stone Day School (Garnet)  
**Hendersonville:** Hendersonville High School (HHS Cats)  
 Runner-up: Hendersonville High School (HHS Red)  
**High Point:** Gaston Christian School (Red)  
 Runner-up: Bradford Preparatory School (Bradford Prep)  
**Hillsborough:** Carrboro High School (CHS Mock Trial Purple)  
 Runner-up: Wake Young Women’s Leadership Academy (Revolution)  
**Raleigh:** Raleigh Charter High School (Lemon)  
 Runner-up: Mock Trial Teens of the Triangle  
**Salisbury:** Central Carolina Homeschoolers (Veritas)  
 Runner-up: Davie County High School (Davie Black)  
**Wilmington:** J.H. Rose High School (Green)  
 Runner-up: J.H. Rose High School (Blue)

**BEST ATTORNEY AND BEST WITNESS**

<b>Fayetteville</b> Best Attorneys	<b>Fayetteville</b> Best Witnesses
<b>Round 1</b>	
Chloe Malone	Olivia Sanchez Dunn
Meha Datla	Kaya Phillips
Avery Zapata	Lahari Jalgama
Ava Astilla	Sara Uharriet
Adam Burchell	Ipsi Vasipalli
<b>Round 2</b>	
Olivia Sanchez Dunn	Walt Brunson
Lara Teemo	Tyler Herrick
Noah Langbo	Sara Uharriet
Matthew McCowen	Sylvia Smith
Caden Eldridge	Kai Sanchez
<b>Final Round</b>	
Chloe Malone	Emanuela Adeyemi

<b>Gastonia</b> Best Attorneys	<b>Gastonia</b> Best Witnesses
<b>Round 1</b>	
Ben Zigler	Lucas Leonard
Julia Parrish	James McClanahan

Ritika Ravikumar	Kinley Burleson
Parishi Patel	Jack Tierney
Hayden Duncan	Audrey Metzger
<b>Round 2</b>	
Julian Vitenson	Ellie Searson
Benjamin Majercsik	James McClanahan
Kinley Burleson	Jonathan Hayes
Mixon Lee	Anna Ryan
Anne Kinghorn	Owen Hurlburt
<b>Final Round</b>	
Melissa Coffey	Mixon Lee

<b>Hendersonville Best Attorneys</b>	<b>Hendersonville Best Witnesses</b>
<b>Round 1</b>	
Mary Shelton	Sophia Betancourt
Sarah Orr	Liam Hoelscher
Isaac Brown	Jordyn Staton
<b>Round 2</b>	
Laura Shelton	Mary Shelton
Sophia Larsen	Katie Purnell
Ashley Jarrett	Sahithi Madineni
<b>Final Round</b>	
Laura Shelton	Rose Henderson

<b>High Point Best Attorneys</b>	<b>High Point Best Witnesses</b>
<b>Round 1</b>	
Catherine Key	Venkata Sesha Thatta
Ian Girdner	Anna Lanier
Shiva Palpanoori	Tyla Stowers
Adhvika Karthik	Miles Kirkpatrick
<b>Round 2</b>	
Cole Dickerson	Kate Ramsey
Ian Girdner	Keegan Coffey

Nadia Linett	Shiva Palpanoori
Ishika Meel	Anushri Ghoshal
<b>Final Round</b>	
Liana Matera	Ava Pierce

<b>Hillsborough</b> Best Attorneys	<b>Hillsborough</b> Best Witnesses
<b>Round 1</b>	
Yamur Samli	Djina Alicante-Stuesse
Noah Wheeler	Blair Miller
E.J. Foster	Johna Seller
Noah Hirsch	Alexandra (Alex) Atkins
Savannah Cade	Nielly Quinones
<b>Round 2</b>	
Camila Reyes	Jessica Kariuki
Siddarth Giridharan	Gabrielle Howard
Lucy Carlson	Alexandra (Alex) Atkins
Sara Turner	Gabe Sylvia
Maddy Gordon	Maisy Woodmansee
<b>Final Round</b>	
Camila Reyes	Alexandra (Alex) Atkins

<b>Raleigh</b> Best Attorneys	<b>Raleigh</b> Best Witnesses
<b>Round 1</b>	
Analiese Wood	Lasya Nerayanuri
Abby Moomaw	Lily Simone
Isabella Reid	Kishen Anand
Sarah Walker	Justin Lee
Iman Nazir	Adam Levin
<b>Round 2</b>	
Analiese Wood	Zenna Widener
Maggie O'Keeffe	Nitya Nalamothu
Justin Lee	Anuva Nuzhat
Jeffrey Wang	Rhea Desai
Kai White	Zoe Bergschneider

<b>Final Round</b>	
Lasya Nerayanuri	Sarah Walker

<b>Salisbury</b> Best Attorneys	<b>Salisbury</b> Best Witnesses
<b>Round 1</b>	
Bladen Goodman	Brinley Goodman
Haley Kramer	Jessica Atwell
Elizabeth Throckmorton	Akhilan Kumaran
Johnathan Burch	Chloe Young
Brielle Newberry	Kya Newell
<b>Round 2</b>	
Sarah Van Horn	Sydney Hayes
Sophia Garza	Grady Phillips
Daisy Gaither	Haley Kramer
Julianne Throckmorton	Ana Aspero
Caleb Bass	Akhilan Kumaran
<b>Final Round</b>	
Katherine Hunnicutt	Gabe Lance

<b>Wilmington</b> Best Attorneys	<b>Wilmington</b> Best Witnesses
<b>Round 1</b>	
Alexis Towne	Bethany Crawford
Reagan Carson	Murray Hughes
Zofia Silver	Maria Workman
Aparna Dhulipala	Avery Braithwaite
<b>Round 2</b>	
Lee Pate	Soren Potthoff
Katie Morris	Charlie Bowers
Poppy Brink	Kelsey Weimar
Anna Kate Nisbet	Ellie Surles
<b>Final Round</b>	
Kinsley White	Murray Hughes

**COURTROOM ARTIST WINNERS:**

Fayetteville - Lily Langbo

Gastonia - Madalyn Bradley

Salisbury - Ariana Fletcher

High Point - Lydia Girdner

***THANK YOU to our many amazing volunteers and to our wonderful sponsors who make this experience possible for our students!***

**GEARING UP FOR STATE FINALS ON FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MARCH 17-18, 2023**

Ten eager teams of high school students will compete for the title of State Champion for North Carolina at Campbell University School of Law in Raleigh on Friday and Saturday, **March 17th and 18th**. State Finals, sponsored by **Sumwalt Anderson**, will consist of three preliminary rounds of competition and then the Final Championship round. A reception will be held Friday following the first round of competition, where students will be welcomed, have team pictures taken, and M. Gordon Widenhouse Scholarship Jr. Award and Steve Schmidly Coaching Award recipients will be recognized. Our State Champion will represent North Carolina in Little Rock, Arkansas, for the National High School Mock Trial Championship which will be held May 18-20, 2023.

**Attorneys, Presiding Judges and Legal Professionals** can volunteer for State Finals by [accessing this link for the following times](#):

FRIDAY Afternoon, Round I, March 17th -- 12:45 pm - 3:30 pm

SATURDAY Morning, Round II, March 18th -- 8:45 am - 11:30 am

SATURDAY Afternoon, Round III, March 18th -- 11:30 am - 2:30 pm

If you're interested in being a **Site Volunteer**, [please access the link here](#).

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY FOR DUKE'S ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL MOOT COURT TOURNAMENT**

Duke University's Moot Court Team is hosting its annual high school tournament on **March 4th and 5th** at Duke University. DUMCT's goal is to give high schoolers across the nation the opportunity to engage with interesting constitutional law topics at a young age. DUMCT is currently looking for

volunteer judges who are available the weekend of March 4th and March 5th. They have 86 high schoolers coming to the tournament and would appreciate any help you could provide! DUMCT will be able to sign off on volunteer hours and will provide breakfast and lunch for judges.

DUMCT's case hypothetical, *Murray v. Pritchett*, concerns challenges about the Fifth Amendment and the Tenth Amendment and can be found at <https://www.namcmootcourt.org/cases/2023>.

If anyone is interested, they can fill out this [Google Form with the slots they can judge at this link](#).

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## **THANK YOU TO OUR 2022-2023 COMPETITION SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS**

### **NCAJ High School Mock Trial Competition Program Sponsor:**



### **Program Outreach Sponsors:**

- Lawyers Mutual

### **Regional Sponsors:**

- Fayetteville: Britton Law
- Gastonia: Orndoff Law Firm; and The Law Offices of Jason E. Taylor
- Hendersonville: Henderson County
- High Point: High Point Bar Association
- Hillsborough: Patterson Harkavy LLP; Mills & Mahoney, PA
- Raleigh: Settlement Planning Services, LLC; and Maginnis Howard
- Salisbury: Rowan County Bar Association
- Wilmington: Shipman & Wright, LLP

## **NCMTP 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, Jordan Godwin
- Gastonia: Holden Clark
- Hendersonville: Mary Ann Hollocker
- High Point: Rich Manger, Eric Richardson
- Hillsborough: Drew Haywood and Rebecca Ugolick
- Raleigh: Kathryn Martin
- Salisbury: John Basinger
- Wilmington: John H. Anderson, Jr.

### Site Coordinators:

- Fayetteville: Tanja Shurling
- Gastonia: Jacqueline Thurman
- Hendersonville: Melanie Miller
- High Point: Grace Lay
- Hillsborough: Patti Clapper
- Raleigh: Michelle Keely and Amanda Miller
- Salisbury: Alicia Coggins and Connie Cassatt
- Wilmington: Catherine Holland

**NCMTP Board Members:** Rebecca Britton (President); Rich Manger (Vice President), Andrew McVey (Treasurer), Adrienne Blocker (Secretary), Bradley Bannon, Drew Haywood, Christine Scheef, Brooke Schmidly, Mark Sumwalt, Valerie A. Johnson (*ex officio*), Jacob Morse, John H. Anderson, Jr., Brenée W. Orozco, and Sue Gray.



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