

UTAH LAW RELATED EDUCATION 645 South 200 East, SLC, UT 84111, 801.322.1802

October 15, 2012

MEMORANDUM

- TO: Prospective Mock Trial Participants and Social Studies Specialists (PLEASE CIRCULATE WIDELY.)
- FROM: Janet Hilliard and Kathy Dryer Mock Trial Coordinators
- SUBJECT: 2013 Mock Trial Program

It is time to begin planning for the 2013 Mock Trial Program. Utah Law Related Education, the Utah State Bar, and the Utah Bar Foundation are the sponsors of the 33rd annual Utah Mock Trial Competition. We would like to expand participation in this engaging, interactive experience and encourage you to enlist teachers in your school and district to participate. It is hoped that involving additional districts will limit the burden of travel.

General Information

For those of you unfamiliar with the program, these are some of the main points. In the past, more than 1,000 students on over 90 teams have entered the competition yearly. There are separate divisions for junior high/middle school (7th, 8th, and 9th grade) and high school (10th, 11th, and 12th grade) students. This activity involves teams from throughout the State of Utah with up to 11 students per team. Each team competes at least twice. One of these trials may be in the team's home area, and one will probably involve travel.

Playoffs will be held weekdays from February 19 through March 9 and Saturdays, February 23 and March 2. Evening trials may be held on weekdays at the Scott M. Matheson Courthouse in Salt Lake City. Quarter-finals (twelve teams per division) will be March 11 - 13, with semi-final rounds (four teams per division) on Friday, March 15. The high school championship round will be Tuesday, March 19, with the junior high school final round on Thursday, March 21.

The competition is limited to **two teams per division per school** (up to 11 students per team). Each team, assisted by an attorney-coach (usually very helpful, but not mandatory), participates in two rounds, once as plaintiff/prosecution and once as defense. Teams meet to enact the trial before a panel of two or three attorney and/or community judges. Judging is on the basis of overall team performance. Advancement for teams is based on performance points and on the number of winning judge ballots. Awards for the winning teams will be presented at the Law Day Luncheon in Salt Lake City.

Registration and Conflict Dates

Attached is a registration form. The **deadline for registering for the competition is December 14**, **2012**. *Please submit one form for each team you wish to register*. Additional registration forms may be downloaded from our web site at <u>www.lawrelatededucation.org</u> or may be filled out online. Along with the registration form, please send the non-refundable **registration fee of \$75 per team**. Registrations postmarked after December 14 must be accompanied by a check for \$95.00 (\$20 late fee). No registrations will be accepted after December 21, 2012. **Checks** should be made **payable to Law Related Education Project, Inc.**

Before sending forms and fees, please be sure you and your students are 100% committed. Any school that drops out will be denied the opportunity to participate the following year. Please fill out your form completely, including **your principal's signature** and information about your team's ability to travel and participate **during school hours**.

You must identify each **date** you **cannot play**. Please identify "**special scheduling considerations**", such as "both teams must compete on the same day at about the same time and in the same vicinity because the school requires both teams to travel together." If you do not identify conflict dates or other essential scheduling considerations (such as testing, prom, or debate tournament) and are scheduled to play when you cannot, your team will forfeit the match. Scheduling is complex, and changes affect more than just one team. To the extent possible, teams will be scheduled to play opponents of comparable ability. Keep a copy of your registration form for your information.

The final schedule and Mock Trial Handbooks will be available at the January 23 teacher meeting at 4:00 p.m. at the Law and Justice Center, 645 South 200 East, Salt Lake City. Teachers and attorney coaches are invited to attend a Mock Trial Teacher Training meeting following the 4:00 general teacher meeting. The attorney CLE course will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. the same day.

Attorney Coaches

It is important that you identify your attorney coach on the registration form. Attorney coaches and attorney judges who attend the Mock Trial CLE course on January 23 will be offered CLE credit. If you are unable to identify your coach by December 14, please call the LRE office no later than January 7 with this information. Also, consider enlisting the help of a parent or parents to help sponsor your team, assist with practices, drive to trials, and take the pressure off you.

Handbooks

Two (2) handbooks per team are included as part of the registration fee. If you would like to order additional handbooks for students, they may be purchased for \$8.00 each, payable in advance. You must order additional handbooks on the enclosed registration form. The handbook and the case will be available to download from our web site (www.lawrelatededucation.org) on January 24.

You may begin your preparations for the tournament, including choosing your team, finding an attorney coach, and scheduling a court tour. Tours of Third District Court may be scheduled by visiting the Utah Courts web site at <u>www.utcourts.gov/general/edresources</u>. An additional mock trial resource that many high schools nationwide are using may be accessed at <u>www.nationalmocktrial.org/nationalmocktrialpracticum.htm</u>. Please feel free to contact Utah Law Related Education at 801.322.1802 with your suggestions, comments, or questions. We are looking forward to another exciting mock trial season!

Attached: Registration Form (Due December 14)

MOCK TRIAL REGISTRATION FORM Please register my team for the 2013 Mock Trial Competition (ONE FORM FOR EACH TEAM).

| Teacher/Sponsor: | Travel: (Please discuss with your principal prior to submitting this form. |
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| School: | Please consider the longest distance possible.) We will be able to travel within a radius of: 60 miles 120 miles 200 miles We absolutely cannot travel beyond the range indicated. We would be able to travel to Salt Lake for the |
| District: | |
| School Address: | quarter-final, semi-final, and final rounds. |
| Zip: | Scheduling: This information is CRITICAL. If a date is not noted, you may be scheduled to play when you cannot. If that happens, you will forfeit the match. There will be NO schedule changes to |
| School Phone: | accommodate an omitted date. |
| School Fax: | Spring Vacation Dates: |
| Home Phone: | Other Conflicting Dates: |
| Cell Phone: | |
| E-mail: | Time Preference |
| Division: () High School () Jr. High/Middle | Yes No |
| Number of Years You Have Sponsored a Team: | () () Morning () () Afternoon |
| Coach: () We have an attorney coach. () We will identify our attorney coach at the January 23, 2013 teacher meeting. () Our attorney coach will attend the January 23 teacher meeting. | () () Evening () () Saturday, February 23 () () Saturday, March 2 Entry Fee: |
| () Our attorney coach will attend the January 23 | \$75.00 by 12/14/12 \$ \$20 late fee between 12/14/12 & 12/21/12 \$ Handbooks: |
| attorney CLE course. Attorney Coach Name and Address: | The entry fee covers the cost of two handbooks. Additional handbooks may be purchased for \$8.00 each. If you would like to order handbooks, please indicate the number you wish to order below. This order must be prepaidhandbooks @\$8.00 = \$ |
| Attorney Coach Phone Number: | TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ |
| Due Date: December 14, 2012 Return to: Mock Trial Coordinator | Make check payable to: Law-Related Education Project, Inc. Fee must accompany registration. |
| Utah Law Related Education 645 South 200 East, Suite 101 SLC, UT 84111 Phone: 801.322.1802 FAX: 801.323.9732 | We, the undersigned, take responsibility and give permission for the mock trial team listed above to participate in the annual Mock Trial Program. |
| E-mail: <u>lre@icw.com</u> Web: <u>http://www.lawrelatededucation.org</u> | Teacher Principal |