



NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA • COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
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Annual Competition Enhances Understanding of the Importance of the Rule of Law *600 Local Students Compete in Annual Mock Trial Program*

Twenty–Nine San Diego County High Schools and their 600 local students are getting a hands-on experience in the importance of the Rule of Law through participation in the 11th Annual San Diego County High School Mock Trial Competition. The four-day competition is held at the downtown Courthouse and it takes place on February 16th, 21st, 23rd and 25th with the local winner going on to represent San Diego County in the Statewide Mock Trial competition next month.

The Mock Trial program places high school students in real courtroom settings before actual state and federal judges. In those courtrooms, the students assume the roles of lawyers and witnesses facing off on a hypothetical case. This year's criminal case, *People v. Awbrey*, involves charges regarding felony human trafficking and misdemeanor false imprisonment and features a pretrial argument on the Fourth and Fifth Amendments.

The event is organized by San Diego Superior Court, San Diego County Bar Association (SDCBA), together with the Constitutional Rights Foundation (CRF). Judicial officers oversee the bench trials, San Diego County lawyers volunteer their time to serve as team coaches and competition scorers.

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Superior Court Judge Yvonne E. Campos, one of the chairs of the event says, “In an era when all citizens need to understand how their three branches of government constitutionally interact, it is gratifying to have hundreds of attorneys and dozens of state and federal judges volunteer their time, on top of their regular workloads, to help hundreds of motivated, hardworking intelligent high school students experientially learn about civics, the Bill of Rights, and the Rule of Law. Students from all backgrounds demonstrate the application of our constitutional liberties through this mock trial process.”

Retired Superior Court Judge Linda Quinn, who represents the San Diego County Bar Association in planning the event, says, “The reward of assisting students become confident, quick thinking and well organized trial teams, as well as observing them gain knowledge of our system of justice through this ‘hands' on’ program is boundless.”

The mock trials are not open to the public. For background information on the program visit the website at www.sdmocktrial.org.

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2017 SAN DIEGO COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL
COMPETITION SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2017

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Round 1- Mock Trials	County Courthouse
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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2017

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Round 2 - Mock Trials	County Courthouse
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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2017

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Round 3- Mock Trials	County Courthouse
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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2017

9:00 - 11:00 a.m.	Round 4 - Mock Trials	County Courthouse
12:30 - 1:30 p.m.	Individual Awards Ceremony	Hall of Justice, Jury Lounge
2:00 - 4:30 p.m.	Championship Round	Presiding Dept., 3 rd Floor
4:30 – 5:00 p.m.	Awards Presentation	Presiding Dept., 3 rd Floor

11th Annual
San Diego County High School Mock Trial Competition
Participating Schools
February 16, 21, 23 and 25, 2017

Abraham Lincoln High School
Academy of Our Lady of Peace
Bonita Vista High School
Carlsbad High School
Cathedral Catholic High School
Christian High School
Coronado High School
Dehesa Charter School
Del Norte High School
Escondido Charter High School
Francis Parker School
Grossmont High School
High Tech High
King Chavez High School
La Jolla Country Day- Team 1
La Jolla Country Day- Team 2
La Jolla High School
Maj. Gen. Raymond Murray
Otay Ranch High School
Patrick Henry High School
Rancho Bernardo High School
San Diego High School International Studies
Scripps Ranch High School
Saint Augustine High School
Steele Canyon High School
The Bishop's School
Torrey Pines High School
Vista High School
Westview High School
