



## Memorandum

**TO:** 2013 State Mock Trial Competition Volunteer Judges

**FROM:** Troy Weston, Tennessee High School Mock Trial Chair  
Will Holloway, Tennessee High School Mock Trial Vice Chair

**DATE:** March 12, 2013

**RE:** 2013 State High School Mock Trial Competition  
March 15-16, 2013

Thank you for agreeing to volunteer for the 2013 State High School Mock Trial Competition this weekend. This memo should provide all the information you need to make your participation seamless and enjoyable. However, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (865) 544-2010 or [tweston@eblaw.us](mailto:tweston@eblaw.us). Will may be reached at (615) 550-2800 or [wholloway@sbdlaw.net](mailto:wholloway@sbdlaw.net).

If you have questions on the weekend of the competition you can reach me on my cell phone at (865) 566-7463 or Will on his cell phone at (615) 330-9572.

### SCHEDULE

A schedule covering all events for the weekend is attached to this email. The trial round schedule is as follows:

Friday, March 15

Round 1: 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Round 2: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 16

Round 3: 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Round 4: 12:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Award Ceremony: Approximately 3:30 p.m.

Championship Round: Immediately following the awards ceremony

**Round Assignments** – Your individual round assignment is referenced in the email that this memorandum was attached to. If you are running late or unable to make a round you volunteered for on the day of the competition, please call Troy on his cell phone at (865) 566-7463.

**Orientation Session** – **Please arrive at the courthouse 30 minutes prior to your scheduled round** to check in and participate in a volunteer orientation session. Volunteer check in will take place on the ground floor of the courthouse, across the hall from the snack bar. Orientation will take place in the Jury Assembly Room, down the hall from the registration area on the right.

**Potential Conflicts** – Immediately upon receiving this memo please review the list of schools below and notify Troy if you do not believe you should preside over one or more of the teams because you have a connection to them or saw them compete in at a district competition.

1. Bearden High School, Knoxville
2. Beech High School, Hendersonville
3. Chattanooga Southeast Tennessee Home Education Association, Chattanooga
4. Dyersburg High School, Dyersburg
5. Franklin High School, Franklin
6. Germantown High School, Germantown
7. Harpeth Hall, Nashville
8. Jefferson County High School, Dandridge
9. Kingsport Area Christian Home Educators Association, Kingsport
10. McCallie School, Chattanooga
11. Montgomery Bell Academy, Nashville
12. Smith County High School, Carthage
13. The Webb School, Bell Buckle
14. Westminster Academy, Memphis

### **COURTHOUSE INFORMATION**

The Metro Davidson County Courthouse is again the site of the state mock trial competition. Located at 1 Public Square, the courthouse is bordered by James Robertson Parkway on the north, Union Street on the south and Third Avenue North on the west. **Please use the entrance on James Robertson Parkway to the courthouse.** The main plaza entrance will not be open after hours on Friday or at all on Saturday. The courthouse is within walking distance of the hotel and walking directions are attached.

**Parking Options** – Those who drive to the courthouse may park in either of two pay lots:

Courthouse/Court Square Garage  
101 James Robertson Parkway  
(615) 244-2330

This underground parking garage is located next to the courthouse. It can be entered from either James Robertson Parkway or Gay Street. The rate is \$12 per day, or \$3 after 5 p.m. and weekends.

Public Square Garage  
350 Deadrick Street  
(615) 242-0391

This above ground garage is located on Deadrick Street between Fourth Avenue North and Third Avenue North. It also can be entered from Charlotte Avenue between Fourth and Third Avenues. The rate for parking Friday after 6 p.m. or all day Saturday is a flat fee of \$10. Parking on Friday prior to 4 p.m. is \$6 per hour or a daily maximum of \$16.

**Volunteer Registration** – Volunteer registration will take place on the ground floor of the courthouse, across the hall from the snack bar. Please plan to arrive 30 minutes before your scheduled round to check-in and attend the orientation session for all judges, scorers and bailiffs. The session is important, as specific courtroom assignments will be made during the meeting.

**Security** – You should be prepared to pass through metal detectors when entering the courthouse for the first time and should leave sufficient time for doing so. You will be able to pick up your name badge at the volunteer registration desk on the ground floor of the Metro Davidson County Courthouse. Please wear your name badge during the competition weekend as it will expedite your entrance to the courthouse.

### **COMPETITION INFORMATION**

There are 14 teams coming to the state competition this year. Given the even number of teams, all teams will compete in all four rounds. For the first round, team pairings has been determined randomly. For rounds two to four, pairings will be determined by a power matching system.

**Problem and Rules** – This year, teams will present *State of Tennessee v. Cameron Paul*, the case of an auto mechanic suspected of murdering Thor Brush, an investment broker who gets local businessmen to invest in his sham company. News of the scheme breaks and clients, including Paul, find they have lost everything. Brush is indicted and awaiting trial when he dies in a car crash. Paul’s shop had recently worked on Brush’s car and police determine the brakes were deliberately loosened. The state argues that Paul – upset about his financial loss – intentionally tampered with the car. The defense places blame on Brush, who was not wearing a seatbelt, was texting, and had fatal levels of medication in his system at the time of the crash.

Revised case material was released March 1 to add complexity to the state competition. To help prepare for the trial, you can:

- download the revised problem at: [www.tba.org/sites/default/files/case\\_revised\\_030113.pdf](http://www.tba.org/sites/default/files/case_revised_030113.pdf)
- download revised exhibits at: [www.tba.org/sites/default/files/exhibits\\_revised\\_030113.pdf](http://www.tba.org/sites/default/files/exhibits_revised_030113.pdf)
- download revised rules at: [www.tba.org/sites/default/files/rules\\_revised\\_030113.pdf](http://www.tba.org/sites/default/files/rules_revised_030113.pdf)

All other documents attached to this email are also available online at [www.tba.org/node/57180](http://www.tba.org/node/57180).

**Teams to Remain Unidentified** – During the competition rounds, the identity of teams should not be announced in the courtroom. Teams will provide rosters to the bailiff and these documents should not list the school name. Please do not ask schools to identify themselves.

**Sportsmanship Award** – Each year a sportsmanship award is given to the team that best embodies the values of the mock trial experience and demonstrates that commitment through its actions, words and attitudes – not only during trial rounds, but throughout the weekend. Each team will be asked to nominate a team other than its own for this award. Comments from presiding judges also will be taken into account in selecting the winner. You will be given a sportsmanship form for each round you preside over. We appreciate your input on the conduct of the teams.

### **HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS**

This year, all of our volunteer judges are staying at the Hotel Indigo located at 301 Union Street, Nashville, TN 37201. The hotel may be reach at (615) 891-6000. The charges for your room, tax and parking will be charged directly to the TBA. You will only need to submit a reimbursement form for your mileage and any meals not provided by the TBA.

**Check In Time** – Check in time on Friday is 3 p.m. and check out on Saturday is 11 a.m. We have asked the hotel to make rooms available as soon as possible on Friday, but please be prepared to arrive at the courthouse on time even if you are not able to check into your room.

**Incidentals** – While TBA is paying for hotel rooms, individuals will be required to pay for all incidentals (e.g., movies or long distance phone service). At the time of check in, the hotel may ask for a credit card to cover these services.

**Reimbursement** – The TBA will reimburse parking, mileage and meals provided during the competition weekend. A reimbursement form is attached and is due within 30 days of the competition. The reimbursement form should be submitted on or before April 16 to TBA YLD Treasurer, Steven King at [sking@bakerdonelson.com](mailto:sking@bakerdonelson.com).

**Hospitality Suite** – The YLD hospitality suite will be located in Room 106 of the downtown Doubletree Hotel. It will be open Friday night after the Friday night dine-arounds and Saturday after the committee dinner.

**Directions** – Driving directions to the hotel from various locations around the state are attached.

### **FRIDAY VOLUNTEER DINNER**

Rather than host one large private dinner event, the Mock Trial Committee has decided to again host a dine-around for volunteers. Each volunteer will be responsible for paying for their meal but will be able to seek reimbursement for that meal. Alternatively, you are welcome to enjoy dinner on your own, which is also subject to reimbursement.

### **OTHER MEALS**

For all volunteers, the TBA also will provide a snack at 5 p.m. on Friday; a hot breakfast Saturday morning from 7-8 a.m. at the Doubletree Hotel; pastries and coffee on Saturday morning at the courthouse; and a boxed lunch on Saturday afternoon.

### **ATTIRE**

The attire for volunteers is business dress throughout the competition. **We ask that you bring your robes for a more authentic experience.** Casual dress is appropriate for the Friday evening dine-arounds.

### **ENCLOSURES**

This email should contain the following nine attachments. Please let me know if you are missing any of them.

1. Judges Memo
2. Schedule of Events
3. Directions to the Hotel Indigo
4. Directions from the Indigo to the Courthouse
5. Map of Downtown Nashville
6. Reimbursement Form
7. Judges Instructions
8. Verdict Instructions
9. Best Attorney/Witness Form
10. Sportsmanship Form

Thank you again for your service! Your contribution makes this valuable experience possible for so many Tennessee students.