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New Jersey Courts

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State's Judges to Preside over Mock Trials

New Jersey's state and municipal judges once again will dedicate their time and expertise to the statewide mock trial program sponsored by the New Jersey State Bar Foundation (NJSBF), today announced Judge Glenn A. Grant, acting administrative director of the courts. The judges will join many of the state's attorneys to preside over local, county, regional and statewide high school competitions.

"Our judges look forward to participating in the annual Mock Trial program," said Judge Grant. "Working in partnership with the local and state bar associations, they have an opportunity to work with very bright and engaged students who are eager to learn about the law and to improve their skills as speakers, listeners and critical thinkers. And the students have the opportunity to experience a realistic court case that often leads them to consider careers in the law."

In the preliminary rounds, which are co-sponsored by each of the 21 county bar associations, teams from each participating high school compete against each other as they play various courtroom roles, including attorneys, witnesses, and jurors, in a fictional court case developed by the NJSBF. Winners at the county level will progress to the regional, semi-final and final competitions, which will be held at the New Jersey Law Center, One Constitution Square, New Brunswick.

This year's state champions will compete in the National High School Mock Trial Competition in Philadelphia on May 6-8. Last year's state winner was Mainland Regional High School in Atlantic County.

This year's mock trial is based on a fictitious criminal case in which the defendant stands accused of kidnapping a 12-year-old.

The foundation also provides mock trial programming for younger students. A number of judges are participating in those events as well.

A schedule of regional and statewide high school mock trial events is attached. For information on local competitions, call the Office of Communications and Community Relations at 609-292-9580.

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Calendar of Regional Events and Statewide Semi-finals held at the New Jersey Law Center, One Constitution Square, New Brunswick.

Feb. 9 Southern Regional

Feb. 10 Central Regional

Feb. 11 Northern Regional March 16 Regional Playoffs

March 18 Semi-finals

March 24 Statewide Finals

State Judges Participating in High School and Other Mock Trial Programming

Francine I. Axelrad (Appellate)
Mark A. Baber (Hudson)
Peter F. Bariso Jr.(Hudson)
James M. Blaney (Ocean)
Marilyn C. Clark (Passaic)
Terrence R. Cook (Burlington)
Helen E. Hoens (Supreme Court)
Michael J. Hogan (Burlington)
David J. Issenman (Union)
Paul A. Kapalko (Monmouth)
John C. Kennedy (Essex)
Camille M. Kenny (Hudson)

Mary K. Costello (Hudson) Honora O'Brien Kilgallen (Monmouth)
Patricia K. Costello (Essex) Lawrence M. Lawson (Monmouth)

Teresa Kondrup-Coyle (Monmouth) Virginia A. Long (Supreme)
William A. Daniel (Union) James J. McGann (Monmouth)

Richard W. English (Monmouth)
Marianne Espinosa (Appellate)
Rudolph A. Filko (Passaic)
Darell Mitchell Fineman (Salem)
Terence P. Flynn (Monmouth)
Sheldon R. Franklin (Ocean)

Robert J. Mega (Union)
Octavia Melendez (Camden)
Dennis R. O'Brien (Monmouth)
Joseph P. Quinn (Monmouth)
Charles M. Rand (Camden)
Ronald Lee Reisner (Monmouth)

Ronald J. Freeman (Camden) Roberto A. Rivera-Soto (Supreme Court)

Vincent J. Grasso (Ocean) Thomas F. Scully (Monmouth)

Kenneth J. Grispin (Union) John E. Selser (Passaic)

James Hely (Union) Bette E. Uhrmacher (Monmouth)

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