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## **Monmouth Vicinage to Host Mock Trial Program**

The Monmouth Vicinage and the Monmouth Bar Association are hosting the 2024 Vincent J. Apruzzese High School Mock Trial Competition.

Mock trials will begin on Tuesday, Jan. 30 and continue on Wednesday, Jan. 31; Thursday, Feb. 1; Tuesday, Feb. 6; Wednesday, Feb. 7; and Thursday, Feb. 8 (finals), from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Monmouth County Courthouse, 71 Monument Park, Freehold. In the case of inclement weather, Tuesday, Feb. 13 is designated as an alternate finals date.

Seventeen private and public schools in Monmouth County are participating in the competition. This year's program features a criminal case about college admission fraud with high school students competing against each other as they assume the roles of defendants, attorneys, and witnesses. Superior Court judges and volunteer members of the bar association preside over the mock trials, and local attorneys act as coaches.

Winners of the county finals advance to the regional semifinals, where they will have a chance to advance to the state championship.

For information on the mock trial schedule, contact the Trial Court Administrator's Office at 732-358-8700, ext. 87025.