

### **Volunteers Needed to Judge District and Regional Mock Trial Competitions**

The annual District and Regional Competitions of the Ohio High School Mock Trial Program are looking for licensed attorneys to serve as judges!

The **District** Competition will be held on **Friday, January 20, 2017** from 12:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Franklin County Municipal Court, 375 S. High Street.

The **Regional** Competition will be held on **Friday, February 10, 2017** from 12:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, 345 S. High Street.

One of the following mandatory, 45-minute training sessions must be attended at the **Office of the Ohio Attorney General**, 150 E. Gay Street, 18th Floor, Columbus, Ohio, 43215: **Tuesday, January 10 at 12:00 PM; Wednesday, January 11 at 5:00 PM; or Thursday, January 12 at 12:00 PM.** These will be brown bag sessions, so feel free to bring lunch/dinner.

In this year's case, *Pat Justice v. CAT News, et al.*, students will consider a case of defamation of a public official by a news station. Pat Justice recently ran for re-election as Governor of the State of Ohio. During the campaign, Trillium High school's We the People club invited Governor Justice to speak during the lunch hour. Afterward, the Governor met with a student in the principal's office. Principal I.M Veritas was a rival of Governor Justice in college, and once the two were alone, an argument began which ended with the Governor storming out. As the Governor left, Principal Veritas suffered a fatal brain aneurysm and died. A student reporter heard the argument and reported to a local news affiliate CAT News that the Governor had killed the principal. While it was disproven quickly, the story went viral. Governor Justice lost the election, and has now filed a civil suit against CAT News, alleging defamation. The former Governor will seek to prove that the station published the story with reckless disregard to the truth, and that the story damaged his/her reputation and cost him/her the election.

The Ohio Mock Trial Program, established in 1983, is a statewide educational program designed to allow students to become aware of their constitutional rights and responsibilities. It provides students the opportunity to learn firsthand about the law, court procedures and the judicial system while also building interpretation, critical thinking, and public speaking skills. If you are unable to assist with these competitions, but are interested in volunteering for other events, please visit [www.oclre.org](http://www.oclre.org) or call OCLRE toll-free at (877) 485-3510.

**OHIO CENTER FOR LAW-RELATED EDUCATION  
OHIO HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL  
VOLUNTEER INFORMATION FORM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Check All That Apply:**

\_\_\_\_\_ I will serve as a judge for the 2017 **District** Mock Trial Competition on  
**Friday, January 20, 2017** from 12:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will serve as a judge for the 2017 **Regional** Mock Trial Competition on  
**Friday, February 10, 2017** from 12:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**Check One: (mandatory)**

**I will attend the following volunteer training session at the Office of the Ohio Attorney General, 150 E. Gay Street, 18th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Tuesday, January 10, 2017 at 12:00 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ Thursday, January 12, 2017 at 12:00 p.m.

(Attending a volunteer training session is crucial to the success of the mock trial program, as rules and procedures change from year-to-year. We promise to keep these sessions brief, and your attendance will help ensure a smooth and successful program for all participants!)

**Contact Information:**

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone (for use on competition day only) \_\_\_\_\_

**Return this form** via ordinary U.S. mail, fax, or email to:

Caitlyn Nestleroth  
Office of the Ohio Attorney General  
150 E. Gay Street, 17th Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Phone: (614) 466-0722  
Fax: (855) 326-1696  
Caitlyn.Nestleroth@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov

**SUBMIT**