

HSA MAT

State v. Espinosa



41st Annual

Ohio High School Mock Trial

March 7, 2024

March 8, 2024

March 9, 2024

The Ohio Center for Law-Related Education Welcomes You



2024 Ohio Mock Trial State Competition

The Ohio Center for Law-Related Education (OCLRE) welcomes students, coaches, advisors, supporters and volunteers to the 41st Annual Ohio Mock Trial Competition. Since it was established in 1983, the Mock Trial program has touched the lives of more than 80,000 students.

High school students in Mock Trial are guided by teachers and volunteer legal advisors to learn about the law and how our legal system functions. Along the way, students build critical thinking skills, public speaking ability, and self-confidence. To maximize student learning, each team must argue both sides of the case.

Each year, volunteer lawyers create an original case for the competition, based on a current Constitutional issue. OCLRE offers training for Mock Trial teachers and legal advisors and coordinates 22 district competitions and 11 regional competitions across Ohio. Although the basic Mock Trial model remains unchanged, the program in Ohio has grown from 32 teams in its first year to more than 230 teams representing over 150 schools in 2024.

More than 1,500 lawyers, judges, teachers and other volunteers selflessly contribute time and talent to the students of Ohio for the Mock Trial program. The Board of Trustees and the staff of the Ohio Center for Law-Related Education thank these supporters for helping to bring citizenship to life!

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A Note on Civility

You may have seen trials portrayed in the movies and TV shows in which the lawyers show, or barely conceal, contempt for one another and even towards the judge. This makes for good drama, but real trials are rarely conducted in this manner, and should never be.

The general duty of an attorney is set forth in the Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct, which are adopted by the Supreme Court of Ohio and govern the conduct of all Ohio attorneys. The Preamble to the Rules reads, in part, as follows:

As an officer of the court, a lawyer not only represents clients but has a special responsibility for the quality of justice. * *

* A lawyer should use the law's procedures only for legitimate purposes and not to harass or intimidate others. A lawyer should demonstrate respect for the legal system and for those who serve it, including judges, other lawyers, and public officials. *** In addition, a lawyer should further the public's understanding of and confidence in the rule of law and the legal system because legal institutions in a constitutional democracy depend on popular participation and support to maintain their authority.

Specific provisions of the Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct require an attorney to: be punctual in fulfilling professional commitments, avoid offensive tactics, and treat all persons involved in the legal process with courtesy and consideration [Rule 1.2(a)]; be honest in all dealings with courts and other tribunals before which the attorney appears [Rules 3.3 and 3.5]; refrain from asking questions that have no purpose other than to embarrass or harass a witness or other person [Rule 4.4(a)]; refrain from engaging in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal [Rule 3.5(a)(6)]; and avoid conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation or conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice [Rule 8.4(c) and (d)].

Students who participate as attorneys in the Ohio High School Mock Trial Program should strive to follow these principles of civility while representing the interests of their clients, and can expect the scoring judges to be favorably impressed as a result. The failure to maintain civility can be expected to have a negative impact on the scoring judges.

With the rare exception where a student is portraying a witness who might genuinely require some departure from the high standards of civility set for the legal profession, it will usually be more effective for a witness to respond courteously to the attorneys' questions, not to interrupt the attorney, and to wait while an attorney interposes an objection to the question just put to the witness. It is never a good idea, no matter how obstreperous the character being portrayed, for a witness to show disrespect to the court.

As for the attorneys, not only is civility expected, it can be surprisingly effective. Being civil does not mean being a push-over. Stridency often distracts from the inherent forcefulness of the argument being made. Cross-examination does not have to be badgering to be thorough and effective to the point where the witness's testimony is completely discredited; indeed, a badgering tone may only engender sympathy for the witness.

It is expected that advisors, coaches, and parents will, at all times, model civil behavior towards and respect for the court and members and supporters of the opposing team.

Schedule of Events

Thursday, March 7th: Franklin County Courthouse, 373 South High Street

Trial I

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.	Team check-in – outside Auditorium
12:30 - 1:00 p.m.	Welcome announcements and room assignments (Auditorium)
1:30 - 3:30 p.m.	Trial I

Trial II

5:00 p.m.	Receive room assignments (Auditorium)
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Trial II
7:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Scores tallied, advancing teams announced (Auditorium)

Friday, March 8th: Franklin County Courthouse, 373 South High Street

**** Play-in Round (if necessary) ****

9:00 a.m.	Team check-in, receive room assignments – outside Auditorium
9:45 - 11:45 a.m.	Play-in Round <u>IF NEEDED</u>
11:45 - 12:15 p.m.	Scores tallied, advancing teams announced

Trial III (Quarterfinals)

12:00 p.m.	Team check-in (<u>if no play-in round</u>)
12:30 p.m.	OCLRE draws pairings live and dismisses teams to courtrooms
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Trial III
7:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Scores tallied, advancing teams announced

Trial IV (Semifinals)

4:00 p.m.	OCLRE draws pairings live and dismisses teams to courtrooms
4:30 - 6:30 p.m.	Trial IV
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Scores tallied, advancing teams announced

Saturday, March 9th: The Supreme Court of Ohio, 65 S Front Street

State Championship

9:45 a.m.	Teams Arrive
10:15 a.m.	Pre-trial
10:30 a.m.	Trial
12:45 p.m.	Scoring Break
1:15 p.m.	Announcement of 2024 State Champion & Presentation of Awards



State Competitors

The following teams, having advanced from the District and Regional competitions, will compete for the 2024 Ohio Mock Trial State Championship.

Archbishop Hoban High School – Team 1

County: Summit

Advisor: Jared Topp

Students: Logan Adams, Gavin Fabish, Kate Folk, Grace Fricker, Rachel Greer, Lindsay Henry, Charlie Hite, Erica Leslie, Carolyn Rinaldi

Archbishop Hoban High School – Team 2

County: Summit

Advisor: Jared Topp

Students: Reighan Brooks, Sophia Burgoyne, Kevin Elliot, Danielle Ferree, Ingrid Kovalik, Gabriella Obhoff, Patrick Reymann, Cassidy Wren

Centerville High School – Team 2

County: Montgomery

Advisor: Jordan Jennings

Students: Diego Esguerra, Mahir Kaida, Grace Militello, Ehson Parirokh, Gray Ramos, Isabel Santillan, Naomi Schwartz

Claymont High School – Team 2

County: Tuscarawas

Advisors: Jeffrey Merklin and James Ong

Students: Ellie Baker, Gemma Dotts, Cora Dotts, Malaika Douglas, Cambria Edwards, Zane Kuczirka, Ashley Yang

Cuyahoga Heights High School – Team 1

County: Cuyahoga

Advisor: Martin Kosovich

Students: Kellen Katona, Charles Lakus, Ana Ratkosky, Ricky Roche, Arushi Shinde, Sophia Winslow, Lorelei Winslow

Danville High School – Team 1

County: Knox

Advisor: Brittany Whitney

Students: Madysen Cochrun, Laura Hochstetler, Narissa Holbrook, Andrea Holland, Olivia Keffer, Caleb Lucas, Kay Stimpert

Dublin Jerome High School – Team 1

County: Union

Advisor: Erin Bentley

Students: Vivian Fair, Isabel George, Maria Rivera, Nada Sadaqa, Syna Sony, Brian Xia, Arwen Zhang, Daniel Zheng, Rachel Zhu

Eastwood High School – Team 1

County: Wood

Advisor: Daniel Mundrick

Students: Vincent Avalos, Joshua Beard, Sophia D'Amore, Eli Good, Karlee Heilman, Zoey Olson, Avery Patchett, Izzy Romero, Abigail Rothenbuhler, Lillian Rowe, Delaine Zura

Indian Hill High School – Team 3

County: Hamilton

Advisor: Bennett VanOudenallen

Students: Ilias D'Ambrosio, Jolyne Gunadi, Rohin Kotian, Merrie Leder, Grace Nguyen, Kip Richardson, Lillie Waltz

Kenston High School – Team 1

County: Geauga

Advisor: Stephan Voudris

Students: Sophia Alandt, Brooklyn Alexander, William Eisner, Alexa Hebert, Madeline Jaroch, Rhys Serquina, Joseph Triscaro, William Turner, Grace Voudris, Brian Worsdall

**Keystone High School – Team 1**

County: Lorain

Advisor: Ashley Hartman

Students: Trever Blackburn, Patrick Cahill, Amanda Handley, Carli Harant, Hanna Hodge, Mitchell Hughes, Aurora Rea, Addisyn Rodachy, Brenna Taylor

Lake High School – Team 2

County: Stark

Advisor: Teresa Miller

Students: Paige Bays, Sofia Beebe, Naomi Cain, Ava Collins, Grace Honaker, Sienna Koosh, Lex McMahon, Isabella Montgomery, Jessica Simmons, Sydni Wyant

Orange High School – Team 1

County: Cuyahoga

Advisor: David Chordas

Students: Mira Batra, Fiona Berns, Sam Bilsky, Mark Buckley, Feray Gungor, Maya Korland, Chika Nwaozuzu, Mira Swirsky

Orange High School – Team 3

County: Cuyahoga

Advisor: David Chordas

Students: Alena Ashby, Maria Bakaeen, Ishan Bhatt, Trent Gluck, Max Klisovic, Grace Martin, Tatev Sargsyan, Mane Sargsyan, Noah Swirsky, Grayson Wint, Luxi Xu

Portsmouth West High School – Team 1

County: Scioto

Advisor: Molly Sylvia

Students: Kara Carter, Clairra Davis, Jeremy Gravely, Elijah Kasper, Mollie Morrissette, Kylee Pollitt, Logan Ralstin, Georgia Roe, Carlos Scott

Reading Community High School – Team 1

County: Hamilton

Advisors: Andy Janig and John McClellan

Students: Ariel Baston, Jackson Brubaker, Hannah Cook, Lilly Jones, Kiersten Kleehammer, Matthew Lawson, Mouhamadou Ndiaye, Lorena Zander

Reading Community High School – Team 2

County: Hamilton

Advisors: Andy Janig and John McClellan

Students: Krissy Bailey, Kaine Colvard, Mia Hankerson, Alexa Massey, Cameron Millette, William Moeggenberg, Micah Neeley, James Wooten

Reading Community High School – Team 2

County: Hamilton

Advisors: Andy Janig and John McClellan

Students: Krissy Bailey, Kaine Colvard, Mia Hankerson, Alexa Massey, Cameron Millette, William Moeggenberg, Micah Neeley, James Wooten

Revere High School – Team 2

County: Summit

Advisor: Alan Silvidi

Students: Lily Blower, Fiona Cooper, Mya Jaber, Saumya Mahajan, Jack Skidmore, Matthew Smith, Bella Soful, Paul Torma, Neha Yadavalli, Shane Yankovitz

Ross High School – Team 1

County: Butler

Advisor: Erica Farris

Students: Peyton Banks, Luke Eads, Ashley Farris, Austin Farris, Cynthia Hildenbrand, Conner Hudak, Eva Johnson, Blake Johnston, Ariam Sauerland

Solon High School – Team 1

County: Cuyahoga

Advisor: Robert Rivera

Students: Simone Davis, Chisom Ezetundu, Alana Guo, Alina He, Alison Kaiser, Vivian Li, Siya Maheshwari, Kartika Mohta, India Patton, Kira Zakem

Springfield High School – Team 1

County: Clark

Advisor: Keith Fry

Students: Joel Blum, Hannah Mattison, Melissa McMahon, Ben Oehlers, Evie Oehlers, Brandon Taylor, Caroline Yontz

**Springfield High School – Team 3**

County: Clark

Advisor: Keith Fry

Students: Emerson Babian, Jude Earlywine, Aria Mills, Marquis Myers, Priscilla Ruelan, Brandon Tackett

St. Ignatius High School – Team 2

County: Cuyahoga

Advisor: Matthew Walcutt

Students: Liam Bracken, James Fornadel, John Guilfoyle, Thomas Keberdle, Ryan Lynch, Chase Matuszny, Andrew Ruffa, Adam Saab, Aris Soto, Oliver Thorpe

St. Xavier High School – Team 2

County: Hamilton

Advisor: J K Klaiber

Students: Grayson Beckham, Francis Chan, Finn Connelly, Charles Healy, David Kim, Jack Muething, Eddie Noll, Drew Schlicker, Will Tepe

Sylvania Southview High School – Team 1

County: Lucas

Advisor: Denny Lyle

Students: Nyomi Bell, Evie Le, David Liu, Fletcher Machanda, Hannah Mock, Ayman Omer, Ashley Wong, Jessie Wong, Diya Yermal

Talawanda High School – Team 1

County: Butler

Advisor: Amanda Weatherwax

Students: Katelyn Bulanda, Thomas Fisher, Muhammed Khan, Nihal Menezes, Hailey Moser, Catherine Moul, William Salzarulo, Eliza Sullivan, James Webb

Warren High School – Team 2

County: Washington

Advisor: Jason Johnson

Students: Katiana Alvarado, Rebecca Ball, Nicholas Bishop, Morgan Bradford, Megan Brothers, Trent Hamrick, Teresa Harris, Adalyn Moreland, Morgan Ramey, Amanda Rauch, Lane Wasson

West Jefferson High School – Team 1

County: Madison

Advisor: Jennifer Siddiqi

Students: Mathew Chmil, Austyn Cordle, Sarah Endicott, Arianna Frybarger, Nancy Gantner, Lahna Harper, Connor Hockenbery, Charlie Kitchen, Hayden Lamoreaux, Zoe Slone, Katey Stephens



Thank You, Volunteers!

The Ohio Center for Law-Related Education thanks the judges, magistrates, attorneys, law students and volunteers who committed their time to judge or assist the Mock Trial Competition at District, Regional and State levels. Each year, more than 1,500 volunteers serve as judges, facilitators, coordinators and team advisors around the state. The programs of the Ohio Center for Law-Related Education would not be possible without you!

After 9 trials, two teams will face off in the 2024 Ohio Mock Trial State Championship Round. The judges below have graciously agreed to serve in the final round.

Championship Round Judges

Ms. Michelle L. Kranz

The Ohio State Bar Association (OSBA) President

The Honorable Jerry R. McBride

OCLRE Mock Trial Competition Committee Co-Chair

Ms. Ebunoluwa A. Taiwo

Assistant United States Attorney; U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Ohio

Mr. Daniel Strunk

Balyasny Asset Management L.P.

Dr. Chavone Taylor Nash

Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association

OCLRE especially thanks [The Ohio Channel](http://www.ohiochannel.org) for recording the Championship Round of Ohio Mock Trial as a community service. Visit www.ohiochannel.org for more information.



Volunteer Judges

The following individuals have volunteered their time to serve as Mock Trial Judges for the 2024 Ohio Mock Trial State Competition. Please Note: This list is based on volunteers signed up at the time of print.

Taylor Agler	Elizabeth Hendershot	Christopher Tamms
Jazmine Barnes	Eric Hershberger	Benjamin Tracy
William Becker	The Honorable Brad Hillyer	Monica Tuttle
Isabella Bennett	Representative Brett Hillyer	John Valenti
Shelby Bennett	Doug Holthus	Joseph van 't Hooft
Wayne Benos	Melissa Hornik	Magistrate Elizabeth Watters
Jillian Boone	Sarah Howard	Arnold White
Hannah Botkin-Doty	Mark Hunt	Gary Whitla
Todd Burch	Kenneth Hurley	Jay Willis
James Burkhardt	Joseph Kearns	Riley Wnorowski
Chelsey Capezzuti	Joyce Martin	
Joshua Cartee	The Honorable Matthew McFarland	
Tiffany Carwile	Laura Nesbitt	
Paul L. Cox	Paul Nick	
The Honorable Jessica D'Varga	Sarah Paxton Ballard	
Steven Dauterman	Haley Pohlman	
Emily de Jong	Evan Poole	
Michael Dillard	Stephen Reger	
Brandon Duck	Charles Reynolds	
Patrick Dukes	Rachel Rinehardt	
Jared Erb	Lauren Sabo	
Derek Faulkner	James Satola	
The Honorable Mary Kay Fenlon	Kylie Scott	
Sidney Fimiani	Michelle Slack	
Thomas Friedman	Justin Smith	
Sandra Furman	David Stebbins	
Michael Fusco	Tracy Stefanov	
Monica Fuster	Thomas Stolly	
Howard Glick	Amanda Strausbaugh	
John Hance	Richard Stuhan	
Vivian Hawk	Scott Sugarman	



District Coordinators and Sponsors

The Ohio Center for Law-Related Education would like to thank the following volunteers who organize the District Mock Trial Competitions.

Host County	Coordinator(s)
Butler	Bradley Kraemer, Esq.
Clermont	The Honorable Jerry McBride
Cuyahoga	Dr. Chavone Taylor Nash
Delaware	The Honorable David Gormley
Franklin	The Honorable James E. Green & Caitlyn Nestleroth Johnson, Esq
Hamilton	Jamie Shiverdecker & Ethan Barnes
Huron	Brett Murner, Esq.
Lake	The Honorable Patrick J. Condon
Licking	Caroline Clippinger, Esq.
Lucas	Lisa Small
Marion	Magistrate David Reed
Medina	Andrew Parker, Esq.
Montgomery	Chris Albrektson
Richland	Rachel Rinehardt, Esq.
Scioto	Sharee Price & The Honorable Howard H. Harcha III



Host County

Coordinator(s)

Stark

The Honorable Mary A. Falvey

Summit

Magistrate Thomas D. Brown

Tuscarawas

The Honorable Adam W. Wilgus

Union

Faye D. Cox, Esq.

Warren

Magistrate Carolyn Besl

Washington

The Honorable Randall E. Jedlink

Wood

Kelly Persinger, Esq.



St. Edward High School, 2023 Mock Trial State Champions



Trophies and Plaques at the Franklin County Courthouse



Regional Coordinators and Sponsors

The Ohio Center for Law-Related Education would like to thank the following volunteers who organize the Regional Mock Trial Competitions.

Host County	Coordinator(s)
Clermont	The Honorable Jerry McBride
Cuyahoga	Dr. Chavone Taylor Nash
Franklin	Caitlyn Nestleroth Johnson, Esq
Hamilton	Jamie Shiverdecker & Ethan Barnes
Lake	The Honorable Patrick J. Condon
Lorain	The Honorable Gary C. Bennett & Cathy Westgate
Summit	Magistrate Thomas D. Brown
Scioto	Jay Willis, Esq.
Washington	The Honorable Randall E. Jedlink
Wood	Kelly Persinger, Esq.



State Mock Trial Championship Round

Match-ups and Winners

2023	St. Edward High School v. Talawanda High School
2022	Talawanda High School v. Indian Hill High School
2021	Sylvania Southview High School v. Indian Hill High School
2020	<i>Event Cancelled</i>
2019	Sylvania Southview High School v. Indian Hill High School
2018	Sylvania Southview High School v. Springfield High School
2017	Notre Dame Cathedral Latin v. Indian Hill High School
2016	Dayton Early College Academy v. Orange High School
2015	Westerville North High School v. Ashland High School
2014	Orange High School v. Sylvania Southview High School
2013	Indian Hill High School v. Orange High School
2012	Indian Hill High School v. Archbishop Hoban High School
2011	Olivia Davidson Washington Home School Program v. Archbishop Hoban High School
2010	Indian Hill High School v. Sylvania Southview High School
2009	Indian Hill High School v. Archbishop Hoban High School
2008	Centerville High School v. Lake Ridge Academy
2007	Elder High School v. Oak Hills High School
2006	Archbishop Hoban High School v. William Mason High School
2005	Marysville High School v. Sidney High School
2004	Wyoming High School v. Sylvania Southview High School
2003	Oak Hills High School v. Upper Arlington High School
2002	Indian Hill High School v. Sylvania Southview High School
2001	Marysville High School v. Sylvania Southview High School
2000	Lakota West High School v. Akron Ellet High School
1999	Sylvania Southview High School v. Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School
1998	St. Xavier High School v. Miamisburg High School
1997	Shaw High School v. St. Xavier High School
1996	Sylvania Southview High School v. Georgetown Jr/Sr High School
1995	Georgetown Jr/Sr High School v. St. Xavier High School
1994	Archbishop Hoban High School v. St. Xavier High School
1993	Gilmour Academy v. Georgetown Jr./Sr. High School
1992	Union High School v. Shaw High School
1991	Georgetown Jr/Sr High School v. St. Ursula High School
1990	Centerville High School v. Shaw High School
1989	Pickerington High School v. Mentor High School
1988	West Holmes-Hiland High School v. Mentor High School
1987	Wooster High School v. Centerville High School
1986	Centerville High School v. Centennial High School
1985	Shaw High School v. Wooster High School

****State Championship Winner in Bold****



Ohio Mock Trial Case Summaries

2022-23, In Re S. Khan: Stevie Khan was a student at Trillium High School. When a prank ruined the school's annual alumni breakfast during their junior year, Stevie became a suspect. During the investigation into the prank, Stevie was brought into the Dean of Students' office where Stevie was asked about their involvement in the prank. At some point during the questioning, the school resource officer (SRO) Ari Nowak became involved. Stevie's statements during the questioning led to a search warrant and Stevie's ultimate arrest. Now, Stevie Khan is moving the court to suppress the incriminating statements that led to the search warrant, claiming a violation of their constitutional rights. Stevie claims that their questioning was a custodial interrogation, and they should have been read their *Miranda* rights.

2021-22, State of Buckeye ex rel. Hollis Fitzpatrick v. Fran DeBier, et al.: Hollis Fitzpatrick was the owner of a family restaurant, Fitzpatrick's, in downtown Harmony. When the COVID-19 pandemic struck the state of Buckeye in 2020, Fitzpatrick's struggled financially and ultimately shut down. Hollis blames the government restrictions for the closure of their restaurant and is taking legal action to be compensated for their loss. This case asks students to consider whether the pandemic restrictions were so severe that they constituted a taking of Hollis Fitzpatrick's property that requires just compensation.

2020-21, State of Buckeye v. Micah Opressa: In 2019, Micah Opressa pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter in the death of their former best-friend, Haumea Robins. A year into their sentence, Micah found out the eyewitness who saw Micah fleeing the crime recanted their testimony. Now, Micah has filed a motion to withdraw their guilty plea, claiming the prosecutor violated their constitutional rights when they knowingly withheld this information when they offered Micah a plea deal. The Supreme Court ruling in *Brady v. Maryland* requires the prosecution to overturn exculpatory evidence during trial. In this Mock Trial case, students will argue whether this precedent also applies to plea negotiations.

2019-20, Rory Maldonado v. Blake Varga et al.: During their senior year at Trillium High School, Rory Maldonado was suspended by Principal Blake Varga for organizing and hosting a gun rights demonstration. The demonstration occurred off campus at a nearby public park but Principal Varga claimed that Rory's demonstration caused disruption at the school. Rory believed Principal Varga simply disagreed with Rory's position on gun rights, which led to the suspension. Now, Rory is suing Principal Blake Varga and the school for a deprivation of their First Amendment Rights.

2018-19, State of Buckeye v. Quinn Woolf: High school student, Quinn Woolf, was arrested on charges of aggravated assault and telecommunications fraud for stealing \$120 million from the State of Buckeye's pension fund. The state is basing its charges on drone footage of the Woolf's backyard captured from 400 feet in the air that was later enhanced. Defense has moved to exclude the drone footage, claiming that police violated Quinn's Fourth Amendment protection against unlawful search and seizure.

2017-18, State of Buckeye v. Adam Smith: Inspired by the popular podcast *Serial*, students tackle the post-conviction relief petition of Adam Smith, a defendant convicted of the murder of his ex-girlfriend in 1999. Almost 20 years later, Smith has filed a petition for a new trial, alleging ineffective assistance of counsel. Smith contends that his original attorney mishandled cell phone evidence in his case and failed to pursue a potential alibi witness.



Ohio Mock Trial Case Summaries (cont.)

2016-17, Pat Justice v. CAT News, et al.: During a campaign stop at a local high school, the incumbent Governor met with Principal I.M. Veritas. After a heated argument, the Governor stormed out, just as Principal Veritas suffered a fatal brain aneurysm and died. A student reporter heard the argument and reported to CAT News that the Governor killed the principal. Justice lost the election and has now filed a civil suit against CAT News, alleging defamation.

2015-16, State of Harmony v. Riley Green: En route to the annual Medieval Fair, a student causes a disturbance while playing in character with a bow and arrow at a convenience store. The store owner calls the police, and as Officer Green arrives on the scene, he finds AJ in the parking lot holding his bow and arrow. After issuing a warning, Officer Green makes the decision to use deadly force prevent further harm. Officer Green is charged with felonious assault.

2014-15, Emerson Jones v. Buckeye Juvenile Correctional Institute: Emerson Jones, a juvenile incarcerated at the Defendant Buckeye Juvenile Correctional Institute (BJCI) Jones claims that the Defendant violated their Eighth Amendment right to be free from cruel and unusual punishment. Emerson contends that BJCI used excessive force to contain a fight in the cafeteria, and that medical staff failed to provide proper care and treatment for Emerson's resulting injury. BJCI counterclaims that the guard used necessary force to mitigate the riot situation, and that it met the standard of medical care in treating Jones' injury. BJCI counterclaims that the guard used necessary force to mitigate the riot situation, and that it met the standard of medical care in treating Jones' injury.

2013-14, Phillips School District v. Jesse Springfield: Phillips High School agrees to license naming rights to its field to a large corporation. Students then organize to protest this action both in school and on the field itself. The school district responds by installing security cameras and searching the lockers of the students involved as well as filing an action to remove the students from the field. The students claim the school district has violated their First and Fourth Amendment rights.

2012-13, State of Ohio v. Dakota Allen: A high school sophomore is suspected of setting a fire at the school that resulted in the death of a maintenance worker. The police then engage in a lengthy interrogation process that involves driving to the scene of the crime and the victim's home as well as various interrogation techniques. Late in the day, the defendant makes a statement claiming responsibility for the fire and is subsequently charged with Murder and Arson. However, the defendant later recants the confession. The defendant has alleged that the statements were improperly coerced by the police in violation of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments and filed a Motion to Suppress.

2011-12, State of Ohio v. Storm Jackson: Storm Jackson, a college freshman, is accused of stealing prescription drugs while attending two real estate open houses and while visiting at the houses of two friends. The Defendant and his parents' names were on a sign-in list at both of the open houses. Without a warrant, the police subpoenaed and obtained Storm Jackson's cell phone GPS records before he was arrested. Storm Jackson has filed a motion to suppress claiming that the evidence seized was the result of an improper search and seizure that violated his Fourth Amendment rights.

Ohio Mock Trial Case Summaries (cont.)

2010-11, Taylor Henlacks v. Dana Brody, M.D., Ph.D., FCAP: The 2011 Ohio High School Mock Trial competition analyzes an individual's rights to the body parts of a deceased family member. In this year's case, after an individual died suddenly in a single car accident, an autopsy was performed with the family's consent to determine the cause of death. During the course of the autopsy, a section of the brain was removed and sent to pathology where it was discovered that the brain cells are regenerative (or "immortal"). The decedent's family has filed a lawsuit against the County Coroner alleging that the coroner violated the family's due process rights by sending the regenerative cells to a research lab instead of returning them to the body.

2009-10, Alex Leslie v. Erehwon Local School District: A high school student is suspended for violating a school disciplinary code after posting comments critical of a teacher on his/her personal blog. The blog was created on the student's home computer and no school resources were used. All of the comments about the teacher were posted from the student's home computer but were accessed by other students through the high school's wireless network. The student alleges that the school impermissibly abridged his/her off-campus speech. The school argues that the posts to the blog because the comments caused a disruption at the school and posed a substantial risk that the high school administrators and teachers were diverted from their core educational responsibilities. The trial for the mock trial competition has been bifurcated and will focus only upon whether the school is liable for violation of the student's First Amendment right of free speech.

2008-09, Terry Silva v. Buckeye Equality School District: A high school soccer player has had his/her dream of college scholarship threatened by a new school district resolution that requires students to show proof of U.S. citizenship or legal status in the United States before being allowed to participate in extracurricular activities. The student argues that the school district's resolution violates the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution and is preempted by federal immigration law.

2007-08, The People's Church v. The City of Urbanopolis: The People's Church is allowing homeless persons to camp on church property. But due to concerns related to crime and the public health, the city has begun dispersing the homeless persons from the church grounds. The church argues that the city's actions unconstitutionally burden the church's free exercise of religion, as guaranteed by the First and Fourteenth Amendments.

2006-07, The City of Strawberry Hills v. Chris Washington: The city of Strawberry Hills uses eminent domain to take Washington's house, not for a public project, but rather to permit a private developer to build a mixed use development as part of an urban revitalization project. The case demonstrates that state constitutions may be an additional source of protection for individual rights, and have the potential for rising above basic rights accorded by the U.S. Constitution.

2005-06, State of Ohio v. Terry Bale: Terry Bale is convicted of aggravated murder. Before the jury decides on his sentence, the defendant's lawyers submit a motion to eliminate the death penalty as a sentencing option alleging that the defendant has been found to have schizophrenia and sentencing him to death would be violate the Eighth Amendment protections against cruel and unusual punishment.



Ohio Mock Trial Case Summaries (cont.)

2004-05, Biotex Labs v. Animal Rights Foundation: A laboratory begins animal testing and catches the attention of an animal rights group who puts possibly inflammatory statements about the laboratory on their website. The lab is then vandalized. The lab is suing ARF for damages, claiming the language on the website caused animal activists who read the website to take action.

2003-04, State of Ohio v. Trilby Van Acker: A student is accused of leaving a bomb in a backpack under the bleachers at a heavily attended outdoor political rally. The subsequent actions of the police and facts of the “confessions” are taken to court for a suppression hearing when the student claims his/her fourth and fifth amendments rights were violated because the statements were involuntary and made before the Miranda warnings were read.

2002-03, Ex Parte Miller: The case is set in 1864 and revolves around a community celebration on a large farm in southern Ohio. A few days later the owner of the farm was arrested and taken to a military prison, charged before a military tribunal with inciting an insurrection in violation of the laws of war. Miller filed a writ of habeas corpus saying his right to a civil trial were violated as was his right to freedom of speech.

2001-02, City of Malloryville v. Alex Carlson: A student was brutally attacked and left unconscious. There was one witness, an elderly woman with poor eyesight. From her statement and the DNA taken from the crime scene, police asked brown-haired students at the local high school to give a saliva sample. A DNA match was found. The student filed a motion to suppress evidence seized as a result of an improper search and seizure.

2000-01, State of Ohio v. Chris Blake: This case concerns the issues of profiling, traffic stops, and what constitutes a legal search at a traffic stop.

1999-00, Turner v. Raetown Board of Education: When a student-athlete violates the school’s zero-tolerance respect policy, disciplinary action threatens the student’s college scholarship. The student files a lawsuit on the grounds that the respect policy and penalty violate the student’s First Amendment and due process rights.

1998-99, City of Whiteacre Bluffs v. K. J. Tyler: A criminal case in municipal court in which the City prosecutes K.J. Tyler for loitering. Defendant Tyler denies the charge and maintains the arrest was unlawful because the ordinance abridges freedom of association under the First Amendment.

1997-98 United States v. Dorain Lowe: A high school student is charged with possession of drugs and drug trafficking after an e-mail message is intercepted by the student’s principal.

1996-97, C. Washington v. Mid-City Veterans Foundation: A high school senior files suit against a veterans’ organization because s/he was passed over for an academic scholarship that the organization awarded to a minority student.



Ohio Mock Trial Case Summaries (cont.)

1995-96, In the Matter of C. Northern: A student-led crime prevention organization runs afoul of a hypothetical state statute prohibiting paramilitary training when they attend a survival skills camp.

1994-95 In the Matter of H. Roller: A juvenile court hearing in which high school students claim their First Amendment and other constitutional rights were violated when they are cited for curfew violation while attending a “religious” meeting in a local restaurant.

1993-94, Noble v. Katesburg School District: This case deals with sexual harassment in the schools. Parents of a female student filed a lawsuit against their daughter’s school district claiming the school knew she was being harassed and failed to stop it. The student teams will argue whether the attentions received by the student were sexual harassment or just flirtatious teasing she couldn’t handle.

1992-93, Ohio v. Rexline: A student waiting in a crowd to attend a rap concert is searched by the police trying to control the crowd. As a result, Rexline is arrested for underage possession of alcohol. The court must decide if the search was legal under the 4th Amendment and whether the flask can be entered into evidence.

1991-92, Koe v. Provider X: A student, who tested HIV positive, sues a medical provider and asks the court to close proceedings to ensure personal privacy. The media intervene to try to keep the proceedings open. The court must decide if the right to privacy is more important than the public’s right to know.

1990-91, Green v. Tullensburg: A student is expelled for allegedly making threats against the star freshman basketball player in violation of the school’s ethnic intimidation rule. The student claims violation of the right to free speech and claims the school rule is so vague it violates substantive due process.

1989-90, Trooper v. Townsville: This case presents a confrontation between the First Amendment rights of high school students and the authority of the school to regulate student government elections and student newspapers.

1988-89, Carps v. Board of Education: The performance of an inspirational song by a student at a high school graduation ceremony is questioned on the grounds that it violates the First Amendment requirement of separation of church and state.

1987-88, Generic v. Childfair: This search & seizure case examined whether evidence seized from a student’s car during a school function was legally admissible under the Fourth Amendment in a criminal prosecution.

1986-87, Whitley v. Board of Education: A high school athlete required to take a random drug test maintained that the test was faulty and procedures conducting it improper. The student used these grounds to challenge school policies making the test a condition for participating in extra -curricular activities.

Ohio Mock Trial Case Summaries (cont.)

1985-86, YMS v. Board of Education: When a student newspaper refused to print an ad by a student club sponsoring war games to raise money for a field trip, the club asked for an injunction to prevent their First Amendment right to freedom of the press from being violated.

1984-85, Fulton v. Maddville: A student athlete unknowingly drank spiked punch and was disciplined for violating a school substance abuse policy. The student claimed a violation of both substantive and procedural due process.

1983-84, Bradley v. Ross: A one-eyed basketball player who was denied the right to play on the school team because of his handicap seeks an injunction claiming his constitutional right to privacy and due process was violated.





About the Ohio Center for Law-Related Education

The Ohio Center for Law-Related Education (OCLRE) empowers teachers with exciting resources that advance their professional skills and energize students in citizenship education. The Center's hands-on, interactive learning experiences align with Ohio Learning Standards and prepare students for success on state tests by engaging them in problem solving and analytical thinking.

OCLRE Programs & Resources

Ohio Mock Trial - offers an innovative approach to learning about law and how our legal system functions. Guided by teachers and volunteer legal advisors, students participate in an original simulated trial written for the program each year by attorneys from around Ohio. Ohio high school students argue their cases in real courtrooms across the state, the state finals are held in the Ohio Statehouse, and the winner advances to the national tournament. Contact: jlewis@ocle.org

Middle School Mock Trial - this activity-based project allows middle school students the opportunity to act as witness, judge, attorney, and jury. The cases are literature-based, constructed around books commonly read in Ohio's middle schools. This interdisciplinary program was designed with Ohio's citizenship, writing, and reading competencies in mind. The activity develops students' critical thinking and assessment skills and need not be competitive. Teams may compete at the annual Middle School Mock Trial State Showcase in the spring. Contact: jlewis@ocle.org

We the People...The Citizen and the Constitution - this nationally acclaimed program helps students understand the history and principles of our constitutional government. The program focuses on the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights and fosters civic competence and responsibility among elementary, middle and high school students in public and private schools. Upon completion of the course of study, classes are encouraged to conduct simulated congressional hearings to demonstrate their knowledge. Contact: rsuskey@ocle.org

Moot Court - Moot Court focuses on the appellate court process and provides students the opportunity to present a simulated oral argument and respond to questions posed by a panel of volunteer judges. Moot Court arguments are evaluated on the application of the law to the facts of the case. By focusing on the applicability of Constitutional law to current legal issues, Moot Court will provide students with an opportunity to strengthen critical thinking skills and increase their understanding of the Constitution and judicial system. Contact: rsuskey@ocle.org

Ohio Government in Action - an annual two-day workshop specially designed to give elementary teachers an insider's view of state government. Activities are focused on Ohio's legislative, judicial and executive branches of government. Teachers will meet with "movers and shakers" in Ohio's government; tour the award-winning Supreme Court Visitor Education Center; participate in a special tour of the Ohio Statehouse; and leave with a binder full of content and ready-to-use lesson plans aligned with the new Ohio Academic Content Standards for the Social Studies. Graduate credit available. Contact: rsuskey@ocltre.org.

Mock Trial Conference - this fall conference gathers educators from throughout the state to learn about the mock trial program. The conference is separated into introductory and advanced tracks. The conference also marks the annual release of the Mock Trial Case file, written each year to reflect a novel and engaging constitutional issue. Contact: jlewis@ocltre.org.

Civics Conference - this summer/spring conference gathers educators and presenters from throughout the state and country to learn about and discuss "hot topics" in the field of civics, government, and law-related education. Graduate credit available. Contact: rsuskey@ocltre.org

Professional Development & Educational Outreach - The Center is able to partner with organizations, school districts, individual schools, and conduct professional development. Professional development may be focused on one or more OCLRE programs. Attend scheduled professional development sessions in Columbus... or, the Center can come to you! Let us know how we can best accommodate your needs. Contact: rsuskey@ocltre.org

Web page - Check out www.ocltre.org for the latest updates on OCLRE programs, lesson plans & activities!

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In Addition, the Ohio Mock Trial Competition is made possible, in part, by a grant from the Ohio State Bar Foundation



The Ohio Center for Law-Related Education would like to thank the volunteer attorneys and educators who make up our Case and Competition Committees.

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