



Date: October 2014
To: Mock Trial Attorney Volunteers
From: Jennifer Gerstner, CRF-OC Program Manager
Re: 2014-2015 Orange County High School Mock Trial Competition

It is my great pleasure to announce that CRF-OC will be holding its 34th Annual Orange County High School Mock Trial Competition beginning on Thursday, November 13, 2014. Over 35 teams from high schools throughout Orange County will gather at the Central Justice Center prepared to enact every role (from pre-trial attorneys to defense and prosecution attorneys, to witnesses, bailiffs and clerks) and make legal arguments relevant to this year's Mock Trial case. I am inviting you to participate in the competition as a **volunteer Mock Trial Attorney Scorekeeper**. Your participation will be critical to the success of the program and we will appreciate your generous donation of time and expertise in support of the efforts of our Mock Trial students.

To volunteer, please complete the attached Registration Form and return it to our office (via email, fax or mail) at your earliest convenience. Alternatively, you may complete the online Registration form [here](#).

No experience with CRF-OC's Mock Trial Program is necessary to participate.

There are many great reasons to volunteer:

- **IT'S QUICK** – The commitment for one evening is from 4:45pm to 7:30pm at the Central Justice Center in Santa Ana. On average, 100 volunteer attorneys are needed for each of the first four rounds of the eight-round competition (November 13, 18, 20 and December 2). At the end of the first four rounds, the top 16 teams move on to the single elimination portion of the competition in Rounds 5 thru 7 (December 4, 9, and 11). Volunteer Attorneys are needed for this part of the program as well. Feel free to volunteer for as few or as many evenings as you like. Anytime you give greatly supports the Mock Trial program. Once you return your completed Registration Form, you will receive an e-mail confirming the dates for which you have been scheduled, as well as information about the Mock Trial case and tips for scoring the competition that you will want to review in advance. Case materials may also be downloaded from our website at www.crfoc.org. It takes less than an hour to read through these materials.
- **IT'S EASY** – You'll be evaluating high school students' performances on a scale of 0 - 5 considering basic criteria such as preparation, confidence, persuasiveness, dependence on notes, etc.
- **IT'S FUN** – The students put an incredible amount of time into preparing their presentations and the "mock" fact situations are always a bit wild and entertaining.
- **IT'S FOR A GOOD CAUSE** – Your participation will make a lasting impression on the students, who are always impressed that "real" attorneys are willing to give their time to this program as a volunteer. The encouragement the students receive from you will help them realize the value of developing public speaking and critical thinking skills. Mock trial participants regularly report to CRF-OC that Mock Trial was one of the most challenging and rewarding things they did in high school.

If you have additional questions, or would like to discuss Mock Trial volunteer opportunities in more detail, please feel free to contact me at jgerstner@crfoc.org or 949.679.0730 x101.

On behalf of the Constitutional Rights Foundation-Orange County, thank you for your support of the Mock Trial program. Your efforts make a real and immediate difference in the lives of student participants.