

Experian-Jones Day Moot Court Competition
University of California, Irvine School of Law
Spring 2012

Competition Rules

- 1 **Teams.** Briefs shall be written in teams of two. Each team may choose whether it is writing a brief for the Petitioner or for the Respondent. Each brief shall receive one grade which will be the brief grade for both participants on the team. It is up to each team to allocate space within the brief as it deems appropriate.
- 2 **Format and length of briefs.** This case is set in the United States Supreme Court. Submitted briefs must comply in all ways (including, but not limited to, format and length) with the Rules of the United States Supreme Court.
- 3 **Deadlines.** All briefs are due by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, January 30, 2012. Five (5) copies of the brief shall be submitted. Each copy shall be submitted in a single volume of 8 1/2 x 11 inch pages. Each copy of a Petitioners' brief shall have a blue cover and each copy of a Respondents' brief shall have a red cover. Briefs submitted after this time will be ineligible for the Best Brief Award and will be penalized by one (1) point for each fifteen (15) minutes the brief is late. Briefs should be submitted to Angie Middleton in the third floor faculty suite.
- 4 **Oral arguments.** Oral arguments will be held with one competitor for each side, and the attorney for the Petitioner will argue first. Each side will have twenty (20) minutes. The attorney for the Petitioner may reserve time for rebuttal. Each participant will argue twice in the preliminary rounds, once for the Petitioner and once for the Respondent. Participants will not be paired against their brief partner in the preliminary rounds.

In the elimination rounds, participants will flip a coin to determine who is Petitioner and who is Respondent, except that if the participants argued against each other in the preliminary round, they will argue on opposite sides.
- 5 **Scoring.** In determining who shall advance to the quarterfinals of the competition, 50% of the score will be based on the brief and 50% of the score will be based on the oral arguments. In determining who shall advance in all later rounds, 100% of the score will be based on the oral argument. In case of a tie, the brief shall be used.
- 6 **Awards.** The following awards shall be given:
 - a. Best brief and second-best brief.
 - b. First place in the Moot Court Competition and second place in the Moot Court Competition.

7 **Prohibition against external assistance.**

7.1 No participant or team shall receive any assistance in the preparation of a brief or oral argument from any outside source including faculty, other law students, attorneys, family members, friends, etc. The exception to this is any resource that the Law School and the Moot Court Board make available to all of the participants in preparation for the competition (e.g., any group sessions or any lawyer who is equally available to all participants).

7.2 Participants may consult written sources when preparing their briefs and oral arguments, *except that participants shall not consult any of the litigation materials filed in this case*. Prohibited litigation materials include briefs (party and amicus), declarations, petitions, motions, oral argument transcripts or recordings, and any other litigation materials, summaries, or reports of those materials.

7.3 While participating in the competition, participants shall not attend any rounds of oral argument except those in which they are scheduled to participate, nor shall they receive information from any person who has attended any other rounds of oral argument. Participants are likewise prohibited from sharing information about rounds they have attended with other participants.

7.4 Any participant who is found to have consulted external sources in violation of these rules risks sanctions which may include, but are not limited to, expulsion from the competition, and/or a deduction of points from the participant's brief score, and/or other sanctions deemed appropriate under the Law School and the University's policies regarding academic honesty.

8 **Ethical obligations.**

8.1 **Plagiarism.** Plagiarism is a serious violation of academic integrity as well as a breach of the Law School and the University's policies regarding academic honesty.

8.2 **Preparation.** Because the competition is, above all, a learning experience and should be considered as such by all participants, no actions will be tolerated by participants which are deliberately intended to impede the preparation of others in the competition. Such prohibited conduct shall include, but shall not be limited to, the hoarding, removal, or destruction of library or research materials and briefs.

9 **Additional rules.** Further additional rules may be promulgated as needed, and notice will be given to all participants.