



# Los Angeles County Mock Trial Program

## Journalist Contest

### Official Rules

#### Rules/Requirements:

- ✓ All journalists must be affiliated with a registered LA County Mock Trial team and enrolled at the team's school.
- ✓ All journalists must pay a \$35 entry fee and register online.
- ✓ All journalists must complete a waiver authorizing the publication or reprinting of their Journalist Contest submission for educational purposes. No financial compensation will be awarded.
- ✓ All journalists must write their articles based on their county team's Round 2 trial.

#### Round 2:

- Introduce yourself to the scorers, say your name and identify yourself as the courtroom journalist.
- Once you are in the courtroom, you may not have any contact with anyone from your team (parents, teachers, or fellow students). You must draft your article completely independently.
- ✓ After Round 2, all journalists must type their articles. Typed submissions must be a 12-point Times New Roman font, with one-inch margins, double-spaced, may not exceed 850 word, excluding the journalist's name and team code.
- ✓ Submitted articles should be in the voice of a reporter covering a criminal trial. Use of dictionaries and thesauruses will be permitted when typing their article.
- ✓ Label your article with your name and team code only.
- ✓ All Journalist Contest participants will have 24 hours to complete their article and emailed to [daisy@crf-usa.org](mailto:daisy@crf-usa.org) by 5:30pm on:
  - November 9th for the high school entries
  - November 14th for the middle school entries
- ✓ Contestants may refer to the Los Angeles Mock Trial case materials, the Journalism Reporters Handbook, and the Judging criteria during the contest.