

Courtroom Journalist Contest

Rules/Requirements: (see Rule 3.11 in the 2024 Los Angeles County Team Rulebook)

- ✓ 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 on their team's Tabroom.
- ✓ All journalists must complete a waiver authorizing the publication or reprinting of their Journalists Contest submission for educational purposes. No financial compensation will be awarded.
- ✓ All journalists must write their articles based on their 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, and may not exceed 850 words, excluding the journalist's name and team code.
- ✓ Submitted articles should be in a reporter's voice 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 email to daisy@teachdemocracy.org by 6:00 pm on:
 - November 13th for the high school entries
 - November 15th 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.