

VOLUNTEER MOCK TRIAL JUDGES NEEDED!

UCLA's Undergraduate Mock Trial Program seeks volunteer judges, attorneys or law students to serve as Presiding Judges or Scoring Judges for the only two Los Angeles area collegiate mock trial tournaments of 2019:

1. The 2019 UCLASSIC Mock Trial Tournament on January 19–21, 2019 (at UCLA). *Trials will be on Saturday PM, January 19 (Round 1), Sunday AM & PM, January 20 (Rounds 2 & 3) and Monday MLK Day AM, January 21 (Round 4) at UCLA.*
2. The 2019 Opening Round of the National Championship on March 9–10, 2019 (at the Santa Monica Courthouse). *Trials will be Saturday, March 9 (AM - Round 1, PM - Round 2) and Sunday, March 10 (AM - Round 3 and PM - Round 4).*

Please read the information below and sign-up to volunteer one of two ways:

1. Register as a volunteer judge at the following link:
[Mock Trial Volunteer Judge Registration Link](#)
2. Contact Prof. Gonzalo Freixes at gonzalo.freixes@anderson.ucla.edu.

General Mock Trial Program Information

The UCLA Mock Trial Teams participate in the American Collegiate Mock Trial Association program. Over 700 teams from colleges around the nation compete by presenting the Plaintiff (Prosecution) or Defense side of a mock civil or criminal case, including Opening Statements, Direct & Cross Examination of witnesses and Closing Arguments. Students must follow the rules of evidence of the "State of Midlands" (an imaginary state that follows the Federal Rules of Evidence). Many California universities field teams at these tournaments, including UCLA, USC, Cal, Stanford, UCI, USCD, UCSB, Cal-Poly and the Claremont colleges. Teams from around the nation will also compete at UCLASSIC.

2019 UCLA Tournaments Information

38 teams will compete at the January UCLASSIC Tournament and the top 24 teams in the Western U.S. will compete at the March tournament. The students will present the Plaintiff or Defense side in the civil case of *Midlands Television Studio v. Danny Kosack*. The case involves an appearance by an animal trainer and his chimpanzee on a television talk show in which the chimpanzee attacks and kills one of the show's writers. The studio and animal trainer have filed negligence claims against each other for losses resulting from the incident.

Trials will be held at UCLA (January UCLASSIC tournament) or at the Santa Monica Courthouse (March ORCS tournament). Free parking and meals will be provided to volunteers. We seek attorneys, judges and law students to volunteer as presiding and/or scoring judges at the trials. The trials are a fun and rewarding experience for volunteers. For attorneys with aspirations to sit on the bench one day, it is a great opportunity to be a bench officer in a very realistic case. We try to accommodate your preference for serving as Presiding Judge (ruling on evidence & exhibits) or Scoring Judge. You may volunteer for more than one trial. Please share this flier with other members of your firm or organization.

Volunteer Information

Trials are strictly timed and typically last 2.5 hours. Volunteers will receive a link containing the Rules of Evidence, the witness affidavits and the mock trial rules. You need not prepare or read any documents in advance of the trials. One presiding judge (*must be an attorney or judge*) will preside over each trial (as the bench officer overseeing the trial and making evidentiary rulings). Scoring judges evaluate and score the participants. The winning team is based on total points received from scores awarded for Openings, Closings, Examinations and Witness Performances. We will outline these procedures at the training sessions prior to each round and will send e-mails prior to the trials with detailed information. There is no Pre-Trial hearing, as in high school competitions.

If you volunteer, we will send you confirmation and detailed tournament information about 2-3 weeks prior to the tournament. If you can serve as a volunteer for one or more sessions or rounds, please go to the registration link above or contact Prof. Gonzalo Freixes at gonzalo.freixes@anderson.ucla.edu. We appreciate your support!