



Colorado High School Mock Trial Journalism Contest

Judging Score Sheet

Judge's Name: _____

Email: _____

| Did the reporter: | Score |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Find the most newsworthy developments that occurred during the portion of the trial in which they were reporting? | Score 0-20 _____ |
| Strive for fairness and accuracy? | Score 0-10 _____ |
| Present the story in a clear, concise language? | Score 0-10 _____ |
| Develop a simple, easy-to-understand lead paragraph? | Score 0-10 _____ |
| Properly structure the story with the most important elements early in the article (inverted pyramid)? | Score 0-5 _____ |
| Demonstrate understanding of the legal procedures and rulings that were used in the judicial process? | Score 0-5 _____ |
| Show the background on the basic elements of the case? (Who, what, where, when, why and how.) | Score 0-10 _____ |
| Make the report interesting by using direct quotes from testimony or descriptions of the courtroom scene, participants, or their behavior? | Score 0-10 _____ |
| Include appropriate coverage of the pre-trial motion? | Score 0-10 _____ |
| Use correct spelling and grammar? | Score 0-5 _____ |
| Follow the proper format? (Headline, dateline, etc.) | Score 0-5 _____ |
| Total (100% = 100 points) | _____ |