

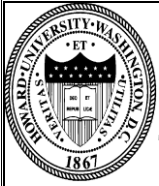
HOWARD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
CHARLES HAMILTON HOUSTON NATIONAL MOOT COURT TEAM
THE WILLIAM B. BRYANT-LUKE CHARLES MOORE
INVITATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION
2012 COMPETITION RULES

Prepared By:

Khyla D. Craine & Thomas Russell, III, Co-Chairs

Tiffanye Threadcraft, Problems and Briefs Chair

2012 Bryant-Moore Civil Rights Moot Court Competition



William B. Bryant-Luke C. Moore Civil Rights Moot Court Competition Rules

The objective of the William B. Bryant-Luke Charles Moore Invitational Moot Court Competition (“Bryant-Moore” or “the Competition”) is to introduce law students to important legal issues arising in the area of civil rights.

Law students who participate in the competition will have the opportunity to develop brief writing and oral advocacy skills in a mock courtroom experience and to heighten their awareness in this evolving area of the law.

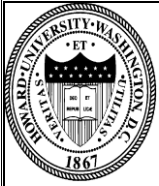
RULE 1. TEAMS

- a) The competition is open to teams of students from ABA accredited law schools throughout the United States. Teams must consist of students from the same law school. No team member may hold a law degree from any law school. Team members must be students in a full-time or part-time Juris Doctor (J.D.) or equivalent program in the law school that they represent.
- b) Number and Composition. Each school may enter up to two (2) teams consisting of (2) team members each.
- c) Substitution of Members. There shall be no replacement of team members after service of briefs except with the express written consent of the Bryant-Moore Committee (“the Committee”), which is comprised of certain executive board members of the Charles Hamilton Houston National Moot Court Team (“CHH”).
- d) Team Letters and Competitor Numbers. When the Problem is made available, each team will be assigned a team letter and each individual competitor will be assigned a competitor number. Each team must use that letter to identify their team and each competitor must use that number to identify him or herself. At no time during the competition process may a team reveal any information that will identify the school that they represent or their names.
- e) Travel. All teams are advised to make adequate plans to anticipate the possibility of adverse weather conditions and other delays or exigent circumstances.

2) RULE 2. THE PROBLEM

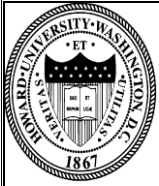
The Problem will be released to the main contact person for each registered team on Tuesday, December 6, 2011. All questions about the Problem must be received by January 7, 2012. Please email all questions to bryantmooreinvitational@gmail.com. All answers will be emailed to all registered teams.

RULE 3. THE BRIEF



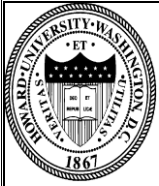
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- a) Each team shall submit no more than one brief. Each team will be assigned one side to represent in writing the brief, but must be prepared to represent **both sides** during the oral argument phase of the competition. Only the team members that will participate in the oral argument phase may participate in the research and writing of the brief.
- b) Prohibition of Assistance. Teams are strictly prohibited from receiving any outside assistance (e.g. coaches, faculty members, judges, attorneys, fellow law students, etc.) in preparation of their brief. This includes editing of any kind (style and grammar). Briefs shall not be exchanged between teams participating in the competition, including teams from the same school, except as provided in the Publications of Briefs section.
- c) All Briefs shall comply with the following formatting rules. Failure to comply will result in a two point (2) deduction on the overall brief score.
- i) Team Identification. The name of the law school and the names of the team members shall not appear anywhere on the brief. Briefs shall not be signed, and no information (real or fictional) serving to identify a team or team member shall appear on or within the brief itself.
- ii) Each brief shall be no more than thirty (30) 8½ x 11 inch pages, double-spaced. Block quotes and footnotes are to be single-spaced. The thirty-page limit includes the statement of the case, summary of argument(s), argument(s), and conclusion. It **does not** include any other part of the brief mandated by the U.S. Supreme Court rules. (See part vii)
- iii) The body of the brief must be in Times New Roman 12-point font. Footnotes must be in Times New Roman 10-point font.
- iv) All margins, except for block quotation, must be one-inch wide.
- v) The cover page of the Petitioner's brief must be printed on **BLUE** paper. The cover page of the Respondent's brief must be printed on **RED** paper. The team letter assigned by the Committee shall be included in the lower right hand corner on the cover of the brief in the following format:
Team ____ (Example: Team X)
- vi) The electronic copy should be saved in the following format:
(a) Team __ (Respondent).PDF
(b) Team __ (Petitioner).PDF



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- vii) With the exception of the requirements set out in Section D below, all briefs shall comply with the official rules of the United States Supreme Court. All briefs are expected to contain:
- Question(s) Presented
 - Table of Contents
 - Table of Authorities
 - Statement of Jurisdiction
 - Statement of the Case
 - Summary of the Argument
 - Argument
 - Conclusion
- d) Citations. All citations shall be complete and in the form prescribed by the 19th edition of *A Uniform System of Citation* published by the Harvard Law Review Association, most commonly known as “The Bluebook.”
- e) Certification. Each Team submitting a brief in the Competition shall submit a single, loose-leaf certification with the hardcopy mailing, certifying that the brief has been prepared in accordance with these Rules and that the work product is solely that of the team’s members. Each team member must sign the certification. The Certification Form can be found on the last page of these Rules. Please **do not** include this signed page with the electronic copy of the brief.
- f) Brief Submission. Each team must submit hard copies of its brief as well as a PDF copy.
- i) Each team shall submit three hard copies of its brief by mail to the following address:
- Howard University School of Law
CHH Moot Court Team
Attn: Khyla D. Craine & Thomas Russell, III
2900 Van Ness Street, NW
Notre Dame Hall, Room 319
Washington, DC 20008
- ii) The brief must be bound at the left margin using spiral or plastic comb binding. Hard copies must be sent in a single package and postmarked by Friday, January 13, 2012.
- iii) Each team shall **also** submit a PDF copy to bryantmooreinvitational@gmail.com by 5:00 P.M. (EDT) on Friday, January 13, 2012. The Committee will not accept any other format. Please include the following in the subject line of the email: Team [Letter] Bryant-Moore Moot Court Brief (Respondent/Petitioner).



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- iv) There will be a **three (3) point deduction** from the total brief score should the electronic copy of the brief arrive after 5:00 P.M. (EDT) on Friday, January 13, 2012 **OR** the hard copy is not postmarked by Friday, January 13, 2012. One point (1) will be deducted for each additional day late, including the weekend. The team will automatically be disqualified if the electronic and hard copies of the brief are not received by Friday, January 20, 2012. Briefs may not be revised or amended after they are served. No supplemental briefs will be accepted.
- g) The Committee will publish and make available all teams' briefs through the website: <http://www.law.howard.edu/247> prior to oral arguments. Competitors should email any problems or concerns with accessing any of the briefs to the Committee at bryantmooreinvitational@gmail.com.

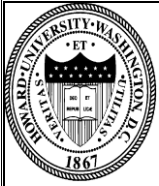
RULE 4. ORAL ARGUMENTS

- a) Oral arguments will be conducted on February 24th and 25th, 2012 at Howard University School of Law. All teams shall be advised by the Committee which side they will argue prior to the scheduled time for each round. In advance of the argument, the courtroom bailiff must be notified how the time will be allotted to each competitor. Each team is responsible for observing the twenty-four (24) minutes time allotment for the oral argument. The courtroom bailiffs, however, will assist with the use of time cards. Competitors should be prepared to address all issues. Competitors are not required to argue all issues, but the failure to argue important issues may be considered by the judges. Each team shall address themselves by their team letter and each competitor shall address him or herself by their competitor numbers.
- b) Participation in Oral Argument. Only the competitors registered for the competition may participate in the oral arguments. The competitors are responsible for constructing and creating their own oral arguments, without outside assistance (i.e., coaches, faculty members, judges, attorneys, or other law students). This rule shall not be construed to prevent mooting, general discussions, and/or critiquing with coaches, faculty members, other team members, attorneys, and other persons about the legal issues after the submission of the brief.
- c) Team Identification. Throughout the competition, competitors should identify themselves to judges by their assigned competitor numbers. If a judge inquires about the school the competitor represents, the student should advise the judge that the Rules do not permit the student to disclose this information.



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- d) Time Allotment. Each team is allotted twenty-four (24) minutes for oral argument. If any portion of Rule 4c) and/or 4d) are not complied with, two (2) points will be deducted from the individual competitor's oral argument score.
- e) Division of Time. Competitors may divide this time between them as they wish. However, each of the team members participating in the oral argument must argue at least ten (10) minutes, not including rebuttal time.
- f) Rebuttal. The petitioner may reserve up to four (4) minutes for rebuttal. Petitioners desiring rebuttal time must notify the bailiff of the team member who will make the rebuttal prior to commencement of the argument. Only one team member may utilize rebuttal time, and the time reserved must be subtracted from the twenty-four (24) minutes allotted for the team's presentation of its case-in-chief. The petitioner may waive reserved rebuttal time at the conclusion of the respondent's argument. Failure to request rebuttal results in automatic waiver.
- g) Time Cards. The courtroom bailiff will advise each competitor when there are five (5) minutes, two (2) minutes, and one (1) minute remaining of his or her allotted time. Once informed by the courtroom bailiff that the time has expired, the competitor must conclude the argument or receive the court's permission to continue.
- h) Preliminary Rounds. Each team will compete in three (3) preliminary rounds of oral arguments, which will be held at Howard University School of Law. The first round will begin promptly at 5:30 P.M. on Friday, February 24, 2012; the second round will begin promptly at 7:45 P.M. on February 25, 2012; and the third round will begin promptly on Saturday, February 25, 2012 at 9:00 A.M. The Committee will attempt to ensure that each team will be given an opportunity to argue at least once as Petitioner and Respondent.
- i) Quarterfinal Round. The quarterfinal round will begin promptly at 11:00 A.M. on Saturday, February 25, 2012 at Howard University School of Law. The eight (8) teams with the highest overall scores from the preliminary rounds will advance to the quarterfinals. During the quarterfinal round, the team with the highest overall score preliminary will be paired against the team with the lowest overall preliminary score and so on e.g. 1 v. 8; 2 v. 7; and so on.
- j) Semi-Final Round. The semi-final round will begin promptly at 1:00 P.M. on Saturday, February 25, 2012 at Howard University School of Law. The four teams with the highest overall scores from the preliminary rounds will advance to the semi-final round. The team with the highest overall score from the quarterfinal round will be paired against the



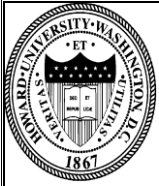
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team with the lowest overall score from the quarterfinal round and so on. (e.g. 1 v. 4 and 2 v. 3)

- k) Final Round. The final round will begin promptly at 2:30 P.M. on Saturday, February 25, 2012 at Howard University School of Law. The two teams with the highest overall score from the semi-final round will advance to the final round. The winning team will be announced at the awards ceremony, which will be held on Saturday, February 25, 2012 at 6:30 P.M.
- l) Presence of Visitors/Guests in the Oral Argument Rounds. Team members, coaches, and faculty advisors are permitted to attend only those arguments in which that team is participating. For the preliminary rounds, no more than four visitors or guests affiliated with a team may attend the argument. Individuals are not allowed to enter the room once the oral arguments have begun. Competitors and teams are prohibited from recording or taping any argument. Failure to comply with this rule will result in automatic disqualification from the competition.
- m) Right to Videotape. The Committee reserves the right to videotape the competitors during the oral arguments, and to use or display the videotape for any purposes the Committee deems necessary.
- n) Miscellaneous Rules. No discussion with the judges is permitted until their critique, which shall be conducted by the judges after the oral argument. In the event that a team drops out of the competition or if there is an odd number of teams, a pre-selected CHH team will participate in the Competition. This team will participate in both preliminary rounds. The CHH team will not be eligible to advance to any other rounds.

RULE 5. SCORING

- a) Briefs. Each brief will be scored by at least three (3) judges. The brief scores will be judged on a one hundred (100)-point scale. The scores will then be averaged to determine the overall brief score. The highest scoring brief will be awarded the title of "Best Brief."
- b) Preliminary Rounds. In each of the preliminary rounds, the oral argument score will be judged on a fifty (50) point scale. The score for each team will be computed by weighing the brief fifty percent (50%) and the oral argument score fifty percent (50%) to achieve a preliminary round score. Each competitor will be judged on the following criteria: (1) command of the issues; (2) ability to answer questions and organization; (3) persuasiveness and reasoning (4) deference, courtroom manner, and style; and (5) use of policy arguments.



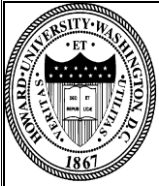
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- c) Quarterfinal Round. The teams will be judged based on the same criteria from the previous rounds. However, the brief will account for thirty percent (30%) and the oral argument scores seventy percent (70%) to achieve a quarterfinal round score. The preliminary round oral argument scores will not be considered in this round.
- d) Semi-Final Round. The teams will be judged based on the same criteria from the previous rounds. However, the brief will account for fifteen percent (15%) and the oral argument scores eighty-five percent (85%) to achieve a semi-final round score. The preliminary round and quarterfinal round oral argument scores will not be considered in this round.
- e) Final Round. The teams will be judged based on the same criteria from the previous rounds. However, during the final round, the oral argument scores will account for ninety percent (90%), and the overall scores from the preliminary, quarterfinal, and semi-final rounds will account for ten percent (10%) of the final score. The team with the highest average score in the final round will be awarded the title of Best Overall Team.
 - i) In the event that a tie should arise in the final round when the overall team score is calculated, then the team with the highest average oral argument score in the final round will be awarded the title of Best Overall Team. If there is still a tie, then the final round's Chief Justice will resolve the tie.
- f) Best Oral Advocate. The Best Oral Advocate will be based on individual oral argument performance in the **preliminary** rounds. The oral scores from the preliminary rounds will be averaged. The competitor with the highest average score will be awarded the title of Best Oral Advocate. An individual competitor must argue at least twice in order to be eligible to receive this award.
- g) Best Brief. The Best Brief award will be awarded to the team with the highest average scoring brief. Penalties. Penalties for rule violations, except as indicated otherwise in the Rules, will be deducted from the team's total brief and oral argument score.

RULE 6. IMPARTIALITY OF THE JUDGES

The Committee will make all attempts to ensure the impartiality of the judges. Any team that recognizes an affiliation between its team or the opposing team and any sitting judge should raise an objection prior to the argument. Failure to object before the argument commences is a complete waiver of this right.

RULE 7. COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS



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The Committee shall consider any complaints or grievances regarding the rules or any aspect of the competition and resolve them in a manner deemed appropriate. Complaints must be submitted in writing, no more than 30 days after the Competition, to the following address:

Howard University School of Law
CHH Moot Court Team
Attn: Khyla D. Craine & Thomas Russell, III
2900 Van Ness Street, NW
Notre Dame Hall, Room 319
Washington, DC 20008

RULE 8. RULES ALTERATION

The Committee reserves the right to amend, alter, or suspend the rules at any time to ensure the fair and balanced conduct of the Competition. If any of the rules are amended, all teams will be notified immediately via email



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BRIEF CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that the brief for _____ Law School is the product solely of the undersigned and that the undersigned have not received any outside assistance (e.g., coaches, faculty members, judges, attorneys, other law students etc.) in connection with the preparation of the brief and crafting and creating the oral arguments. We further certify that we have complied with all other Bryant-Moore Invitational Moot Court Competition rules.

Name: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

Team _____