

CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS FOUNDATION
Mock Trial
Journalism Contest
Judging Score Sheet

Judge: _____

Entry #: _____

Did the reporter:	Score	
Find the most newsworthy facts that occurred during the trial on which she/he was reporting?	(15%) – Score 0 to 3 _____	
Present a fair and accurate account of events without any apparent editorial slant?	(5%) – Score 0 to 1 _____	
Develop an enticing lead paragraph with the necessary and basic elements of the case? (Who, what, where, when, why, and how.)	(20%) - Score 0 to 4 _____	
Properly structure the story with the most important elements early in the article (inverted pyramid)?	(10%) - Score 0 to 2 _____	
Demonstrate sufficient understanding of legal procedures and the judicial process?	(5%) - Score 0 to 1 _____	
Make the report vivid by using direct quotes from testimony or descriptions of the courtroom scene, participants, or their behavior?	(10%) - Score 0 to 2 _____	
Include appropriate coverage of the pretrial motion?	(10%) - Score 0 to 2 _____	
Use correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation?	(15%) - Score 0 to 3 _____	
Have an accurate headline that does not editorialize?	(5%) - Score 0 to 1 _____	
Have the proper dateline?	(5%) - Score 0 to 1 _____	
Total (20 points = 100%)	Numerical Score _____	Percent Score _____