Invitation to the

2018 National Criminal Trial Advocacy Competition

The California Attorneys for Criminal Justice and University of Hastings School of Law cordially invite you to compete in our National Criminal Trial Advocacy Competition held in San Francisco, California, October 11-14, 2018.

We are looking forward to this year's excellent trial advocacy competition. We have invited only the best programs in the nation to compete. The competition will be held in the Federal District Courthouse with the final round at Hastings College of Law.

Our competition is in its 10th year, and in this short time, it has become well known for its excellence. Both the fact pattern and judging have been hailed as exemplars of what a competition should include. We are fortunate to attract dedicated federal and state court judges and highly experienced criminal defense attorneys and prosecutors in our state and federal courts here in San Francisco.

As a coach recently noted: “We know of no other national competition able to secure three judges for each round, representing seasoned prosecutors, defense attorneys and sitting federal and state court judges; and CACJ bases this competition on real cases, challenging our students to strategize and prepare fully. And meeting Jamal Trulove, a man wrongfully convicted of murder at the 2015 student reception was simply transformative. What and how we teach students – who are tomorrow’s prosecutors and defenders – is so important; thanks to CACJ, they are better prepared by this very rich experience.” Attached to this invitation is additional information about recent competitions.

Since 1973, justice has been part of our organizational name because justice is our goal. From the initial membership of 60 lawyers, California Attorneys for Criminal Justice has grown to include thousands, and is the country’s largest statewide organization of criminal defense lawyers and allied professionals.

CACJ is dedicated:

1. To defend the rights of persons as guaranteed by the United States Constitution, the Constitution of the State of California and other applicable law;
2. To preserve due process and equal protection of the law for the benefit of all persons; to enhance the ability of its members to discharge their professional responsibilities through educational programs, publications and mutual assistance; and
3. To protect and foster the independence of the criminal defense lawyer and to improve the quality of the administration of criminal law.

To register, please review the attached REGISTRATION INFORMATION and complete the APPLICATION attached. As noted, Registration opens on May 7, 2018, and closes on June 15, 2018; payment is due with the application. CACJ will provide a Federal Tax ID form upon request if needed by your accounting department.

For questions concerning the competition please email mocktrial@cacj.org. For any other questions regarding payment or deadlines, please email CACJ at info@cacj.org.

Thank you,

The NCTAC Planning Committee
Our NCTAC Judges

1. The Honorable James Larson, Federal Magistrate Judge (retired) U.S. District Court, Northern District of California. Judge Larson served as a Federal District Court Magistrate Judge for 14 years and served as Chief Magistrate Judge of the Northern District of California from 2005 to 2010. As a defense attorney, Mr. Larson served as president of CACJ and the National Lawyers Guild.

2. The Honorable Susan Illston, Senior United States District Judge, Northern District of California. The number of notable cases over which Judge Illston has presided is far too long to list here, but includes United States vs. Barry Bonds.

3. The Honorable Braden Woods, Judge of the San Francisco Superior Court. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Mr. Woods served as assistant district attorney since 1996 and as chief of the Criminal Division since 2011.

4. The Honorable Saundra Brown Armstrong, Senior United States District Judge of the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. Judge Armstrong served as a police officer, District Attorney for Alameda County and with the Department of Justice prior to serving as a Judge of the Superior Court for Alameda county before her appointment to the federal bench in 1991.

Steven Kalar is the Federal Defender for the Northern District of California. He served as a senior litigator from 2003 until his appointment to the office’s top post. He has also worked as a training attorney and mentor to new assistant federal defenders and acted as a liaison and resource to the Northern District’s Criminal Justice Act panel attorneys.

The Honorable Susan Breall, Judge of the San Francisco Superior Court. Prior to her appointment to the bench, Judge Breall served as an Assistant District Attorney for San Francisco, primarily responsible for prosecution of domestic violence cases.

The Honorable Harry Dorfman, Judge of the San Francisco Superior Court. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Mr. Dorfman served as managing attorney of the San Francisco District Attorney’s homicide unit, and as a professor at San Francisco’s Law School from 2001 to 2011.

The Honorable Maxine Chesney, Senior United States District Judge, Northern District of California. Prior to federal appointment, Judge Chesney served as a San Francisco Superior Court Judge, and as a San Francisco prosecutor, as a senior trial attorney and head attorney.

Jeff Adachi, Elected Public Defender, San Francisco. Mr. Adachi has received many awards during his tenure as Public Defender, including the California State Bar Association’s Hufstedler Award for public service; the California Public Defender Association’s Program of the Year Award; the American Bar Association’s national award for excellence in public defense; and the California Lawyer Attorney of the Year award (CLAY) for his work in the field of prisoner reentry.

The Honorable Ann Moorman, Judge of the Mendocino Superior Court. Judge Moorman was elected to the bench in 2010; currently she is the presiding judge for the county. Prior to her judgeship she practiced criminal defense and was voted “Top Attorneys of Northern California” by SF Magazine and in Best Lawyers in America. She served on the board of Women Defenders and is a past president of CACJ.

The Honorable Maxine Chesney, Senior United States District Judge, Northern District of California. Prior to federal appointment, Judge Chesney served as a San Francisco Superior Court Judge, and as a San Francisco prosecutor, as a senior trial attorney and head attorney.

Brian Stretch. During his 18-year tenure in the U.S. Attorney’s office, Mr. Stretch served until January 2018 as the U.S. Attorney for the Northern District, and previously as First Assistant U.S. Attorney and Chief of its Criminal Division.
Mr. Trulove’s case was used as inspiration for the 2015 CACJ/Hastings National Criminal Law Trial Advocacy Competition. Trulove had been wrongfully convicted when CACJ members Marc Zilversmit secured a reversal and Alex Reisman and Kate Chatfield won an acquittal on retrial. This wrongly convicted man, who spent 6 years in prison for a murder he had nothing to do with, joined the students and coaches at the NCTAC reception in 2015 to address the importance of getting it right.

Mr. Trulove was recently awarded $10 million by jury verdict for violation of his constitutional rights. Read more here: https://bit.ly/2GQoaEy

“[Listening to Trulove] was one of the most transformative experiences of a lifetime.”
- Mock Trial Participant
Thank you for your interest in the 2018 CACJ National Criminal Law Trial Advocacy Competition. In recent years, the number of law schools applying to participate in the NCTAC has increased greatly. In order to maintain the quality of the competition, and to ensure that teams from the greatest number of law schools are able to participate, we have changed some of our policies and procedures.

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<tr>
<th>TRIAL COMPETITION DATES</th>
<th>October 11-14, 2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>REGISTRATION FEE (Non-Refundable after July 31, 2018)</td>
<td>$525.00 per Team</td>
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<td>Please send your registration form along with payment to:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email <a href="mailto:info@cacj.org">info@cacj.org</a></td>
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<td>Fax: (916) 643-1836</td>
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<td>Mail: California Attorneys for Criminal Justice (CACJ)</td>
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<td>1555 River Park Drive, Ste. 105, Sacramento, CA 95815</td>
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<td>REGISTRATION OPENS</td>
<td>May 7, 2018</td>
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<td>Registration Applications received prior to this date will not be given priority</td>
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<td>REGISTRATION CUT-OFF AND PAYMENT DEADLINE</td>
<td>June 15, 2018</td>
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<td>E-MAILING OF TRIAL MATERIALS</td>
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<td>Trial Materials will be electronically mailed to the e-mail address indicated on your registration application.</td>
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<td>IDENTIFICATION of COMPETITORS and OTHER PARTICIPANTS</td>
<td>September 21, 2018</td>
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<td>Each team must consist of four (4) competitors. The names of student competitors, coaches, advisers and guests must be provided to CACJ.</td>
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<td>MULTIPLE TEAMS</td>
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<td>If your school wishes to register a second team, you must indicate this on your Registration Application. PLEASE NOTE that only one (1) team will be confirmed as registered prior to the Registration Cut-Off Date. The registration of your “Team 2” will be held in abeyance until after the Registration Cut-Off Date. If, after the Registration Cut-Off Date, there is space available, the registration of your “Team 2” will be confirmed. Confirmation of Registration of your “Team 2” will be sent within ten (10) days after the Registration Cut-Off Date. Applications for more than two (2) teams per school will not be accepted. If, after the Registration Cut-Off Date a school withdraws one of its two teams from the Competition, the other team from that school, in the discretion of CACJ, may also be required to withdraw to maintain a proper number of teams overall.</td>
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<td>LATE REGISTRATION</td>
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<td>Registration Applications and/or Registration Fee checks received after the Registration Cut-Off Date will be accepted only to the extent that positions are available after the allocation of positions to previously received “Team 2” applications has been completed. (See “MULTIPLE TEAMS”, above.)</td>
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If you have any questions please contact: MockTrial@cacj.org
TEAM CONTACT INFORMATION

School Name: ________________________________________________________________
Address: _______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Coach Name*: ___________________________ Advisor Name*: ________________________________
Coach Phone*: __________________________ Advisor Phone*: ________________________________
Coach Email*: __________________________ Advisor Email*: ________________________________

* Required Information

TEAM ENTRY DEADLINE: JUNE 15, 2018
(NON REFUNDABLE AFTER JULY 31, 2018
LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE

☐ One Team $525.00  ☐ Wait List for 2nd Team

BILLING INFORMATION

Total Amount Enclosed: $525.00  Charge my: ☐ Visa  ☐ MasterCard  ☐ Check Enclosed

Name on Card: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________
Billing Address: ________________________________________________________________
City/State/Zip: _________________________________________________________________
Email Address: ________________________________________________________________
Account Number: ___________________________  3 Digit Security Code: _______
Exp. Date: ______________________________

_________________________________________  ____________________________
Signature  Date

PLEASE SEND COMPLETED FORMS TO CACJ BY MAIL, FAX, OR EMAIL

1555 RIVER PARK DRIVE, STE. 105 SACRAMENTO, CA 95815
Phone: (916) 643-1800 Fax: (916) 643-1836
Email: info@cacj.org
For more information please go to:
http://www.cacj.org/MockTrial