

Tuesday, November 29, 2005

Law Schools: Chase Trial Advocacy Teams Win Kentucky and Ohio Mock Trial Competitions

Chase Trial Advocacy Teams won both the Kentucky and Ohio Mock Trial Competitions held on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, November 10 - 12, 2005 in Lexington and Cleveland, respectively. The students who represented Chase in the competitions are members of the Chase National Trial Advocacy Team.



Team Members from left to right are: Taylor Sorrell, Brandi Hagan, Sarah Clay, Steve Dasenbrock.

In Lexington, the Chase team of Sara Clay, Steve Dasenbrock, Brandi Hagan and Taylor Sorrels won the Kentucky competition by defeating a team from the University of Kentucky in the final round. Another Chase team of Lewis Diaz, Adam Hill, Scott Van Nice and Wes Williams advanced to the semi-final round by defeating a team from the University of Louisville.

The Kentucky Academy of Trial Attorneys and the American Board of Trial Advocates presented championship awards to the winning Chase team.



(Back Row: L to R) Scot Van Nice, Adam Hill, Wesley Williams, Steve Dasenbrock, Lewis Diaz, Taylor Sorrell; (Front Row L to R) Debbie Newton, Rachel Heinbaugh, Sarah Clay and Brandi Hagan

In Cleveland, the Chase team finished in a three-way tie for first place in the Ohio competition with teams from Cleveland State University and the University of Toledo. The Chase team members were Ray Atkinson, Garrett Baker, Lorelei Bolohan, Kelly Gindele, Alice Key, Lynne O'Connor, Stephanie Ogg, Dawn Sommers and Brionnea Williams. Chase student

Alice Key was named "Best Advocate."

The competition was sponsored by the law firm of Reminger and Reminger.

The Chase mock trial teams were coached by their faculty advisor, Professor Kathleen Hughes, and adjunct faculty coaches John Dunn, Emily Kirtley Hanna, Shannon Sexton and Jay Vaughn.

The University of Kentucky College of Law hosted the Seventh Annual Kentucky Law School Mock Trial Tournament on November 11 and 12 at the Robert F. Stephens District Courthouse in Lexington, Ky.

Mock trial tournaments give third-year law students the opportunity to hone their courtroom skills. In each mock trial, students practice prosecuting and defending a plaintiff using an unchanging set of facts about a fake legal case. They make opening and closing statements, examine witnesses and present evidence. A number of prominent Kentucky trial attorneys serve as judges at the event.

UK Law Professor Allison Connelly developed the annual competition seven years ago between the three Kentucky law schools – UK College of Law, University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law and the Chase College of Law.

"I worked to develop the tri-school competition because I wanted to build bridges between the three law schools, and to give students the opportunity to develop their courtroom skills," Connelly said. "We need better trial lawyers and what a great way to do it."

A warm applause to all the participants and sponsors of this program with the help of a host of Kentucky lawyers serving as judges for a day at the Lexington event.

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