



Dear Friends of Furman Mock Trial:

I write to solicit your participation in judging at the ***Bell Tower Mock Trial Tournament***, which will be staged on the Furman University campus on **Saturday-Sunday, 12-13 February 2022**. **Please note the change in dates from Friday-Saturday, 11-12 February to Saturday-Sunday, 12-13 February.** The American Mock Trial Association (AMTA), the sanctioning organization for undergraduate mock trial, has selected Furman as one of its 29 regional tournament hosts in 2022.

AMTA has assigned 26 teams to the Bell Tower Regional, requiring me to recruit a minimum of 156 lawyers and judges (not a typo!) to score and preside at the trials. The tournament's four rounds are scheduled to begin at 8:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on **Saturday, 12 February** and **Sunday, 13 February**. During the week prior to the tournament, all evaluators will attend a judges' orientation session on ZOOM that will introduce the rules of the competition. Approximately 45 minutes before the trial begins, one of the tournament referees will give an overview of the on-line orientation and take questions.

You will join at least one other attorney or judge and score a trial lasting approximately three hours. Judges usually provide a brief critique of the trial after submitting scoring sheets. The total time commitment for each round is four hours. We will provide meals prior to each round.

Furman and AMTA both have COVID-19 protocols in place for this tournament. **Vaccinations (defined as more than two-weeks since the second dose of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccines or one dose of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine) are required of participants (judges and competitors). All participants are required to show proof of their vaccination status. Additionally, all participants must wear masks, except while eating or drinking. For judges who are not comfortable attending the in-person judges' meeting (as folks will be unmasked while eating), we can accommodate you. Simply state your request in the accommodations portion of the registration form and someone will follow-up with you. Finally, Furman will not host the tournament if the University's COVID-19 protocol or AMTA determines that it is not safe for us to gather in-person.**

To register as a judge, go to www.furman.edu/belltowerjudge. If you would rather speak to someone involved with the tournament, contact the tournament manager, Paige Blankenship, at (864) 294-3547 or paige.blankenship@furman.edu, and she will assist you. We would greatly appreciate receiving your response by **Friday, 28 January 2022**. You can also contact me via e-mail at glen.halva-neubauer@furman.edu.

In January, we will notify you electronically of the specific round(s) to which you have been assigned. I appreciate your willingness to consider supporting Furman University in this fashion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glen A. Halva-Neubauer".

Glen A. Halva-Neubauer
Dana Professor of Political Science
Director, Mock Trial and Public Service Internship Programs

