

October 1, 2009

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Dear Students and Advisers,

It is with great pleasure that I invite you and your school to participate in the 2010 Duke Moot Court Tournament, to be held February 27-28, 2010.

The tournament provides a unique opportunity for high school students from around the country and the world to debate a mock Supreme Court case. Past participants have found the tournament an excellent test of their analytical, debate, and public speaking skills, and they have enjoyed the privilege of arguing their cases in front of legal luminaries from academia and the judiciary.

At the tournament, approximately forty two-person teams will participate in five rounds of preliminary debate in front of Duke student judges. Eight teams will advance to the final rounds, which will be judged by teams of Duke students and, for the final, by a panel of legal scholars and jurists. Awards will be presented to the top teams and individual speakers.

In order to participate in the February tournament, interested teams must submit an essay, of no more than 500 words, in response to the attached prompt. Submissions will be judged on the basis of case law understanding, depth of analysis, and quality and persuasiveness of writing. The top teams will be invited to compete on the Duke University campus in February.

Please be advised of the following important dates:

November 15, 2009—Essay Submissions Due

Essay submissions must be received via email, to dukemootcourt@gmail.com, or, mail, to David Clain, Duke Moot Court, Box 98047, Durham, NC, 27708. Email is greatly preferred.

December 15, 2009—Decisions Announced

Teams invited to compete will be notified via email and on our website. At that time, further information about accommodations and tournament logistics will be available.

February 27-28, 2010—Tournament

Teams will be welcomed at Duke University's campus for the weekend tournament.

For more information, please see our website at <http://www.duke.edu/web/mootcourt/> or contact us via email at dukemootcourt@gmail.com. We are happy to advise you in any way possible.

We hope that you choose to participate, we wish you well, and we look forward to seeing you in February.

Sincerely,

David Clain
President, Duke Moot Court