

Genesee County Bar Association and Genesee County Bar Foundation

Present:

LAW DAY 2017

In 1958, President Dwight D. Eisenhower established Law Day as a counter to the May Day observances in the Soviet Union and its satellites. Law Day provides an opportunity for educating students and citizens of this country about the Constitution and the Law, and the responsibilities of Citizenship.

The Mock Trial is a simulation of a civil or criminal case where high school students participate as attorneys, witnesses, or jurors. The case is tried in a court room, before a Genesee County Circuit Court Judge. This is an experience that cannot be replicated in a classroom. The Mock Trial gives students a first hand exposure to the courts and legal system.

Students learn to:

- Act out of respect for the rule of law and hold others accountable to the same standards.
- Use close and critical strategies to read and analyze complex texts, make connections prior to knowledge, draw inferences and determine main idea and supporting details.
- Present a coherent thesis when making an argument, support with evidence, articulate and answer possible objections and present a concise, clear closing.
- Critically examine evidence, thoughtfully consider conflicting claims, and carefully weigh facts and hypotheses.
- Find and organize information, analyze, interpret support interpretations with evidence, critically evaluate, and present information orally and in writing.
- Use deductive and inductive problem-solving skills as appropriate to the problem.
- Examine policy issues in group discussion and debates (clarify issues, consider opposing views, apply democratic values or constitutional principles, anticipate consequences) to make reasoned and informed decisions.
- Analyze events and circumstances from the vantage point of others.

“Our constitutional democracy requires active citizens. Responsible citizenship requires students to participate actively while learning in the classroom. Instruction should provide ac-

tivities that engage students so that they simultaneously learn about civic participation while involved in the civic life of their communities, our state, and our nation. The social studies curriculum prepares students to participate in political activities, to serve their communities, and to regulate themselves responsibly.” Michigan Department of Education.

PEOPLE v FRANCIS LAWRENCE

Defendant Francis Lawrence is a senior at Webber High School. Francis is on the National Honor Society, captain of the soccer and basketball teams, and an avid church goer. Sometimes, looks can be deceiving. Chandler Ortega, Francis' former 16 year old boyfriend/girlfriend, accuses Francis of soliciting a nude photograph and distributing it to over 100 other students at Webber High School.

Francis avers that Chandler set him/her up because Chandler did not want Francis to hang around his/her friends. Chandler was control over Francis who elevated Chandler's social circle.

The State of Michigan has charged Francis with four counts relating to the distribution and possession of the nude photograph of a 16 year old child. They are as follows: Count I, Causing or Allowing Child Sexually Abusive Activity; Count II, Distributing Child Sexually Abusive Activity; Count III, Possessing or Accessing Child Sexually Abusive Activity; and Count IV, Using a Computer to Distribute Child Sexually Abusive Activity.

Is Francis a good kid gone bad or did someone set Francis up? If convicted, Francis could face up to ten years in prison and \$50,000 fine.

Friday, April 28, 2017

Masonic Temple and

Genesee County Circuit Court

Mock Trial: (Grades 9 –12)

Deadline to Enter:

Friday, February 10, 2017

LAW DAY 2017

PEOPLE v FRANCIS LAWRENCE

We would like to participate in Law Day 2017

School Name

Teacher Name—Sponsor

Telephone Fax

Email

Best Time of Day to be contacted

Please check all that apply:

#Attending

Jury Orientation, _____

Masonic Temple, 9:30 a.m.

Law Day Lunch, _____

Masonic Temple, 11:15 a.m.. (all participants welcome)

Mock Trial, _____

Genesee County Circuit Court , 1:00 p.m.

Participating Students, Including Alternates, Jurors

The following number of participants are suggested (not including alternates): two (2) attorneys, three (3) witnesses (defense if assigned defense, and prosecution if assigned prosecution), and at a MINIMUM four (4) jurors. Please remember to email the names of the student participants by April 3, 2017 to emh@gcbalaw.org.

Attorney Sponsor

Some schools choose their own attorney. Please indicate your preference:

- Provide our team with an attorney-sponsor.
- Provide our team with an attorney-sponsor from last year (if available).
- I have confirmed _____ as our attorney sponsor. (If you have not personally confirmed with the attorney, do not complete this portion.)

Morning Session—Juror Voir Dire: During the morning session, students will participate in a mock Voir Dire. We will draw names of students by a blind draw. Only students who complete and return the juror questionnaire will be in the blind draw. This is similar to how a real jury is chosen. Please have your students complete a juror questionnaire either based on their information or create a person to play. The deadline for returning juror questionnaires to the GCBA is April 3, 2017. The juror questionnaire can be found on the GCBA website.



PICTURES

The Genesee County Bar Association would like to take pictures of the events throughout the day and use the pictures in a power point presentation during next year's Law Day luncheon and in its publication.

In order to take the pictures of the students and use the pictures in the power point presentation and in Genesee County Bar Association publications, the Genesee County Bar Association requires permission from the parents and teachers of the participating students.

If permission is provided by the parents and teachers, then the Genesee County Bar Association will provide copies of all pictures taken during Law Day 2016 to the schools.

By signing this section, you represent that you have received permission from the parents of the participating Law Day students for the Genesee County Bar Association to take pictures of the participating students and use the pictures in next year's Law Day Power Point presentation and in Genesee County Bar Association publications.

School Name

Teacher Name—Sponsor

Teacher Signature



315 E. COURT STREET, FLINT, MI 48502

PHONE (810) 232-6000

FAX (810) 232-8310

WWW.GCBALAW.ORG