



Constitutional Rights Foundation's
California Mock Trial Program
Journalism Contest



Judging Score Sheet

Judges Name: _____ Entry#: _____

Did the reporter:	Score
1. Find the most newsworthy developments that occurred During the portion of the trial on which she/he was Reporting? (40%) – Score 0 to 4	_____
2. Strive for fairness and accuracy? (15%) – Score 0 to 2	_____
3. Present the story in clear, concise language? (10%) – Score 0 to 2	_____
4. Develop a simple, easy-to-understand lead paragraph? (5%) – Score 0 to 1	_____
5. Properly structure the story with the most important elements early in the article? (5%) – Score 0 to 1	_____
6. Understand the legal procedures and ruling that were used in the judicial process? (5%) – Score 0-1	_____
7. Show the background on the basic elements of the case (who, what, where, when, why, and how)? (5%) – Score 0 to 1	_____
8. Make the essay interesting by using direct quotes from testimony or descriptions of the courtroom scene, participants or their behavior? (5%) – Score 0 to 1	_____
9. Spell words and names correctly? (5%) – Score 0 to 1	_____
10. Use correct grammar? (5%) – Score 0 to 1	_____
TOTAL	_____