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Ohio Mock Trial Cuyahoga Regional Competition Rescheduled and Expanded to Accommodate Teams from the Summit County Regional Mock Trial Competition

CLEVELAND – March 1, 2011 – Due to weather, the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association (CMBA) has rescheduled its Annual Ohio Mock Trial Cuyahoga Regional Competition for this Thursday and Friday, March 3 and 4. The rescheduled competition adds an additional seven teams from the Summit County Regional Mock Trial Competition that were unable to compete in their region due to weather.

This combined regional event is an intermediate contest for the 18 qualifying teams from the Cuyahoga, Lake and Huron County District Competitions, plus the 7 teams from the Columbiana, Richland, Stark, Summit and Trumbull District Competitions. More than 250 students representing 17 high schools will compete in two trials and more than 40 volunteer judicial panelists – judges, magistrates and attorneys – will preside over the trials and score the event. The winners of both their trials will advance to the Ohio High School Mock Trial State Finals on March 10-12, 2011.

To accommodate the increased number of teams, the event will be split among two days of competitions. On Thursday, 11 teams will compete in two trials at the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association inside the Galleria and the Erievue Tower (Trial #1 from 12:45 – 2:45 p.m. and Trial #2 from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.). The remaining 14 teams will compete Friday at the Cuyahoga County Courthouse at One Lakeside Avenue in downtown Cleveland (Trial #1 from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. and Trial #2 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.).

Participating high schools for the Cuyahoga Regional include: Brecksville-Broadview Heights' Team Gold (Cuyahoga District); Mayfield Team (Cuyahoga District); Mentor's Teams Rock and Terminator (Lake District); North Olmsted's Team Legal Eagles (Cuyahoga District); Orange's Teams Cub, Falcon, Panther and Shark (Cuyahoga District); Riverside's Team Gold (Lake District - Painesville); Solon's Teams A. Scalia, E. Kagan, J. Roberts, R. B. Ginsburg (Cuyahoga District); St. Edward's Teams Gold and Green (Cuyahoga District); St. Paul Catholic's Team Golden (Huron District - Norwalk); and University School's Team Maroon (Cuyahoga District – Hunting Valley).

Participating high schools for the Summit Regional include: Anderson Junior Senior's Team Blue (Columbiana - Lisbon); Beaver Local's Team Ice Man (Columbiana - Lisbon); St. Peter's Team Magers+Eaton (Richland District - Mansfield); St. Thomas Aquinas' Teams Gold and Black (Summit – Louisville); Struthers' Team Black (Trumbull - Struthers); and Walsh Jesuit's Teams Maroon and Gold (Summit District).

This year's fictional case asks whether a county coroner's removal of body parts for scientific analysis constitutes an impermissible taking of property without due process of law in violation of the family members' constitutional rights. Each team has prepared to present both sides of the case in two trials at the District Competition. Students play the roles of attorneys, witnesses and bailiffs. Awards are presented in each trial to the "Outstanding Attorney" and "Outstanding Witness." The teams have been assisted by teachers and volunteer legal advisors.

The Ohio Mock Trial program is conducted under the auspices of the Ohio Center for Law Related Education (OCLRE). The OCLRE is sponsored by the Supreme Court of Ohio, the Ohio State Bar Association, Attorney General's Office and ACLU Foundation of Ohio. The Cuyahoga District Competition is sponsored by the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, with funding

support from the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Foundation. More information is available at http://www.clemetrobar.org/Pro_Bono_and_Community_Programs/Mock_Trial/Ohio_Mock_Trial_Cuyahoga_Competition/.

About the CMBA

The nonprofit Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association operates as a center for legal professionalism in the region, promoting the highest ethical and professional standards. Serving the largest legal community in the state, the CMBA has more than 5,400 members. Learn more at www.clemetrobar.org.

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