



Illinois State Bar Association
Standing Committee on Law-Related Education Newsletter

January/February 2012



ILLINOIS STATE
BAR ASSOCIATION

LAW-RELATED EDUCATION

The Newsletter of the ISBA's Committee on Law-Related Education

Statements, expressions of opinion or comments appearing herein are those of the editors or contributors, and not necessarily those of the Association or the Committee.

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2012 ISBA High School Mock Trials

The 2012 Illinois State Bar Association High School Mock Trial Materials are posted on our website at <http://www.isba.org/teachers/mocktrial>.

Teachers wishing to participate will also find the 2012 Rule Handbook and Registration materials at this site. If teachers want to contact a lawyer or lawyers to help them prepare students for the mock trials, check the Lawyers In Classrooms resource. <http://www.isba.org/lawyersinclassrooms>

The Registration Deadline is February 1, 2012. Registration Fee is \$100, payable to Illinois LEARN, 424 South Second Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701. The Mock Trials will be held at the University of Illinois Springfield Campus on Friday, March 30th and Saturday, March 31st, 2012.

Certification of Participation in a regional/practice trial is due on **March 15, 2011**. Listed below are Regional dates we have been notified of.

2012 Regional Mock Trial Dates

Kane County Mock Trial Tournament -

Saturday, February 4, 2012, Geneva, IL

For more information contact janelle.vandesampel@d303.org

McLean County Bar Association - Monday, February 13, 2012. For more information contact

pablo.eves@mcleancountyil.gov

DuPage County Bar Association

Friday, February 17, 2012

For more information contact imonahan@dcba.org

Northwest Suburban Bar Association - Saturday, February 25, 2012. For more information

contact jbarth@nwsba.org

Lake County Invitational - Saturday, February 25, 2012. For more information contact

cbishop@lakecountyil.gov

ISBA LAWYERS IN CLASSROOMS

As part of ISBA's initiative to make a difference in the lives of Illinois students, and to assist in expanding diversity in the legal profession, we invite attorneys to go back to school and speak to students on law-related topics.

This informal program provides a way for Illinois teachers to search an ISBA volunteer database to find lawyers in their areas who are willing to speak on specific subjects. The list is available on our law-related education website, <http://www.isba.org/lawyersinclassrooms>, as an on-going resource for teachers.

Typical classroom presentations would last for 30-60 minutes and should be on topics that the teachers wish discussed or enhanced by the participating ISBA volunteer.

DO YOU WANT TO TEACH ABOUT CREDIT CARDS? DEBT?

If you or someone you know teaches a course in consumer education or a current events class, you will want to know about this website. Chock-full of material to be used in the classroom, it is produced by judges and bankruptcy attorneys who have seen too much of the consequences of debt due to credit card use.

Why teach about this? In 2006, teens 12-17 spent \$179 billion. 200,000 bankruptcy cases filed in 2006 were filed by young adults, 18-25. Up to 10% of college students will drop out due to credit card problems. The goal of these judges and attorneys is to prevent these problems through education.

Credit Abuse Resistance Education – CARE – contains lesson plans, pre-tests, handouts, post-tests, power point presentations, and classroom or homework exercises. These would make great resources for guest speakers as well.

The website also contains a link to a 30 minute PBS video, “Taking Control of Your Credit,” and a lesson plan to use with the video.

The website can be found at <http://careprogram.squarespace.com/>

7 REASONS TO LEAVE THE PARTY

From the Illinois Judges Association (IJA) website <http://www.ija.org/7reasons.pdf>

1. Do the math. Alcohol/drugs + cars = death.
2. You like the internet: So do schools and employers...YOUR record may be there.
3. Trust is fragile. Don't break it.
4. Movies are more fun than urine tests.
5. ...and, by the way, they watch you urinate to prevent cheating.
6. That \$2 beer may really cost \$100's in fees and fines...It's cheaper at 21.
7. You waited 16 years for your driver's license. Don't lose it – or your car.

OUTLINE OF THE JUDICIAL BRANCH IN MCHENRY COUNTY

The Judicial Branch in McHenry County is a presentation designed by the Public Relations Committee of the Twenty-Second Judicial Circuit of the State of Illinois for use in the Community by Judges of the Circuit. The Circuit sits in McHenry County, Illinois, and hears cases in the Cities of Woodstock and McHenry, Illinois. This presentation is offered as a public service to better acquaint the community served by the Circuit, with the operations of the Circuit. Through this presentation, no particular case can be discussed. As well, no Judge can provide legal advice to any person.

Outline

- I. The Constitutions.
 - A. United States of America.
 - B. State of Illinois.
- II. The Three Branches of Government.
 - A. Legislative.
 - B. Executive.
 - C. Judicial.
- III. The Federal Court System.
 - A. District Court (the trial court) (Northern District of Illinois).
 - B. Court of Appeals (the appellate court *of right*) (7th Circuit).

- C. Supreme Court (*the supreme court*).
- IV. The State Court System.
- A. Circuit Court (the trial court) (22nd Judicial Circuit).
 - B. Appellate Court (the appellate court *of right*) (2nd District).
 - C. Supreme Court (the *supreme court*).
- V. The 22nd Judicial Circuit.
- A. McHenry County
 - 1. 8 Circuit Judges + 9 Associate Judges.
 - 2. Most cases are heard in Woodstock.
 - 3. Certain traffic cases are heard in McHenry.
 - B. Chief Judge.
 - 1. Civil Division / Presiding Judge.
 - 2. Criminal Division / Presiding Judge.
 - 3. Family Division / Presiding Judge.
- VI. The McHenry County Government Center.
- A. Courtrooms.
 - B. Conference Rooms.
 - C. Waiting Rooms.
 - D. Holding Cells.
 - E. Offices.
 - F. Jail.
- VII. Types of cases.
- A. Civil.
 - B. Criminal.
 - C. Family.
- VIII. Participants.
- A. Parties.
 - B. Judge.
 - C. Court Security Officer (Bailiff).
 - D. Clerk.
 - E. Attorneys.
 - F. Others.
- IX. Proceedings.

- A. Filing.
 - B. Initial Hearings.
 - C. Trial.
 - D. Enforcement.
- X. Conclusion and Referral to Resources.

Supreme Court of the United States: www.supremecourt.gov.
Supreme Court of Illinois: www.state.il.us/court.
Twenty-Second Judicial Circuit: www.co.mchenry.il.us/departments/courtadmin.
Library of Congress: <http://thomas.loc.gov/home/thomas.php>.
Illinois General Assembly: www.ilga.gov.
McHenry County Bar Association: www.mchenrycountybarassoc.org.
Illinois State Bar Association: www.isba.org.

Law Library of the Circuit: 2200 North Seminary Avenue, Woodstock, Illinois.
Self-Help Desk of the Circuit: 2200 North Seminary Avenue, Woodstock, Illinois.

THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT

When teaching law-related education, you may want to encourage your students to use some of the apps now available. You will have to go to the APP Store of iTunes to download these to your iPad or iPhone. Here are a few, all of which are free:

My Congress
Constitution
Constitution and federalist Papers
My World Atlas
CIA World Fact Book
History Tools
U.S. Flag
World Fact Book
NASA
National Geographic
World Book: Day in History
PBS KIDS

Most news outlets also have free Apps. Here are a few:

CNN
BBC
USA Today
Wall Street Journal
NPR
Time Magazine

Free Presidents Day Lesson Plans from the Constitutional Rights Foundation

You may go to their website at <http://www.crf-usa.org/presidents-day/presidents-day.html> to create an account. Then use the Search box and enter Presidents Day. Click on #7 to get the lesson plans you would like to use.

The Presidents featured are: George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Jackson, James K. Polk, Abraham Lincoln, Andrew Johnson, Ulysses S. Grant, Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry S. Truman, and Lyndon B. Johnson.

This and other editions of the ISBA's LRE Newsletter are available on-line at <http://www.isba.org/Sections/lrenewshome.html>

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