



THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF
SAN FRANCISCO

Go back to school as a mock trial coach with the BASF Barristers Mock Trial Program!

Three Reasons to Become a Mock Trial Coach

- 1. It is a service opportunity.*** The BASF/Barristers Mock Trial Program gives San Francisco public school students the opportunity to develop public speaking skills and learn about the law. As a mock trial coach, you will mentor, coach, and directly impact the lives of these students.
- 2. It is an opportunity for you to improve your own lawyering skills.*** When you serve as a mock trial coach, you sharpen your own public speaking and litigation skills by teaching students substantive legal topics, rules of evidence, how and when to make objections, how to deliver openings and closings, how to examine witnesses, etc.
- 3. It is a networking opportunity.*** Attorneys involved in the BASF/Barristers Mock Trial Program come from all sectors of the San Francisco legal community: law firms, government, and area businesses/organizations. Serving as a mock trial coach allows you to meet and connect with other attorneys through networking events and the county competition itself.

Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. How much time does coaching take?*** It depends. Each school is coached by a team of coaches who divide their time depending on their availability. On average, coaches should expect to spend 2 hours per week coaching mock trial.
- 2. What schools are involved and where are they located?*** The Mock Trial Program currently involves students in grades 9 thru 12 from eight San Francisco public schools. We have three schools that need additional coaches. Coaches either meet with students at their high school or have the students travel to the coaches' offices for practices.
- 3. What kind of support would I have?*** Coaches are provided with case materials, lesson plans, and an orientation. We will also match novice coaches with experienced coaches who will act as mentors. The BASF Barristers Mock Trial Committee handles all logistics.
- 4. What is the competition itself like?*** The Program culminates in a county mock trial competition held at the San Francisco Superior Courthouse (with State Court judges presiding and practicing attorneys scoring). The San Francisco county champion goes on to the state mock trial championships—in 2010, San Francisco came in second place overall at states!

Interested in joining us as a mock trial coach? Applications are due by September 23, 2010.

Please send your resume to BASF Mock Trial Committee Chair Kimberly Taylor (ktaylor@colaw.com) and BASF Director of Diversity Pipeline Programs Jayne Salinger (jsalinger@sfbar.org or 782-9000 ext. 8710).