

NOTE: This letter was sent as an email on Friday, October 30th to the contact name listed on your application and contains your team letter and party assignment.

2010 National First Amendment Moot Court Competition

Congratulations! On behalf of the First Amendment Center and Vanderbilt University Law School, we invite you to participate in the Twentieth Annual National First Amendment Moot Court Competition.

The 2010 competition problem, rules, scoring guidelines, scoring sheet, team information and travel forms are posted on the Web site at <http://www.firstamendmentcenter.org/mootcourt>. Receipt of payment and a list of the schools selected to compete in the 2010 competition will be mailed to the address indicated on your application form.

TEAM IDENTIFICATION

In order to maintain anonymity in brief grading and in oral arguments, each team has been randomly assigned a team letter and party assignment. Your assigned letter is the only method of identification to be used on your briefs; neither the individual team member names, nor the name of your school is to be placed on the brief. Please remember that no one, other than the two registered team members, can contribute to the brief in any way. If either rule is violated, penalties will be applied. For your convenience, we have posted a copy of the 2004 Best Brief online at <http://www.firstamendmentcenter.org/mootcourt>.

Each team has also been assigned a party, either Petitioner or Respondent. Please note that in oral argument your team should be prepared to argue as either Petitioner OR Respondent (depending on the schedule) regardless of the party on whose behalf your brief was written.

SCHOOL:

TEAM LETTER:

PARTY:

IMPORTANT COMPETITION DATES

- **January 17, 2010** – Deadline to reserve discounted rooms at Embassy Suites. The National First Amendment Moot Court Competition has procured a block of rooms at a discounted rate at the Embassy Suites, located within walking distance to Vanderbilt's campus. We will provide a complimentary shuttle every morning and afternoon to those

competitors staying at Embassy Suites. When making your reservation by calling (615) 320-8899 you must identify yourself as part of the National First Amendment Moot Court Competition.

- **January 20, 2010** – Briefs are due. Each team shall serve seven (7) paper copies of its brief and one (1) PDF copy of its brief to the Vanderbilt Moot Court Board. The seven (7) briefs must be sent in a single package, postmarked no later than January 20, 2010 (National First Amendment Moot Court Competition 1207 18th Ave. S. Nashville, TN 37212). Also included in this package should be your team information sheet. The PDF copy of your brief is to be emailed to the Vanderbilt Moot Court Board at mootcourt@fac.org by 5:30 p.m. (CST) on January 20, 2010. Three (3) points will be deducted from the total brief score should the brief arrive after 5:30 p.m. (CST) on January 20, 2010. One (1) point will be deducted for each additional day late. The Team Information Form must be returned to the Vanderbilt Moot Court Board with the seven (7) copies of the brief.
- **January 21, 2010** – Briefs will be posted on the competition Web site – www.firstamendmentcenter.org/mootcourt.
- **January 29, 2010** – Deadline to request any interpretation of the Rules.
- **February 1, 2010** – The Team Travel Information Form must be postmarked no later than this date.
- **Thursday and Friday, February 18-19, 2010** – Dates of the 2010 National First Amendment Moot Court Competition.

We would also like to remind you that all teams must consist of two members that will write both the brief and participate in oral arguments. No three-member teams are allowed to compete in the competition. You should immediately read all of the Rules of the 2010 Competition carefully. **You are responsible for knowing the current Rules as well as the penalties assessed for violating the Rules.**

Again, we want to extend our congratulations and sincere welcome! If you have questions at any time, please feel free to contact me by phone at (615) 727- 1345 or by email at mootcourt@fac.org.

Sincerely,
Jamie Thalgott, Executive Associate Justice
Vanderbilt Moot Court Board, Vanderbilt University Law School