



JOURNALISM CONTEST

Official Rules

1. All contestants must be affiliated with a participating Stanislaus County Mock Trial team and enrolled at the team's school. Each team may send a maximum of three courtroom journalist. The journalist winner will have the opportunity to advance to state at their own expense.
2. All participants must sign a code of ethics promising to work independently on the contest entry.
3. All participants must sign a release form authorizing the publication or reprinting of their Journalism Contest submissions for educational purposes. No financial compensation will be awarded.
4. Contestants may only watch and report on their team's trials.
5. All contestants must write their articles based on their team's **Round 1 trial**.
6. Typed submissions only. Must be a 12 point Times New Roman font, with one-inch margins, double-spaced, and a page limit of two pages. Any articles over two pages will not be read.
7. Submitted articles should be in the voice of a reporter covering a criminal trial.
8. When attending Round 1 of the Stanislaus County Mock Trial Competition, all contestants must wear a "Press Badge," as provided by Mock Trial Staff at check-in.
9. During the trials, all contestants must sit in the audience away from witnesses.
10. Please introduce yourself to the scorers (they will be sitting in the jury box) and the presider (she/he will be sitting on the bench).
11. Once you are seated, you **MAY NOT HAVE ANY CONTACT WITH ANYONE FROM YOUR SCHOOL** (parents, teachers, or fellow students). You must draft your article completely independently.
12. All entries must be completed and **received by Tuesday, February 9, 2021, 5:00 PM**. Articles may be delivered (attention to Cheryl Goulart) by email to cgoulart@stancoe.org, or hand delivered to the Stanislaus County Office of Education, 1100 H Street, Modesto, 2nd floor Superintendent's Office.