



## ***Professionalism and Civility Award***

The ***Professionalism and Civility Award*** was created to highlight the importance of professionalism among teams participating in our Mock Trial competitions.

The ***Professionalism and Civility Award*** nomination ballot will be included in your team's registration packet. During the competition experience (inside and outside the courtroom), your team and coaches will observe other participating teams while using a subjective process. Teams will nominate another team to be considered for the ***Professionalism and Civility Award***. Teams may take into account the behavior of students, coaches, and spectators associated with other teams when making a nomination for this award.

Teams may not campaign for this award. When discussing this award with students, it is hoped that coaches will emphasize the importance of professional behavior inside and outside the courtroom throughout the competition. The discussion of this award will provide you with an excellent opportunity to review the Code of Ethical Conduct and the Rules of the Competition that deal with ethics and decorum. Discussions about this award will provide coaches the opportunity to discuss the high standards of professionalism attorneys are held to as members of the SC Bar.

The qualities that teams nominated for the award must demonstrate:

- A professional demeanor (courteous, polite, shaking hands of team members, etc.)
- Civility
- Integrity
- Honesty
- Fair play
- Respect for the competition
- Respect for fellow competitors
- Respect for volunteers and all associated with the program inside and outside the courtroom throughout the competition
- Respect for courthouse staff and their facilities

Each team must submit one team ballot nominating another team for the ***Professionalism and Civility Award***, which includes nominating a second team in the event a tie breaker is needed. A team may not nominate itself. A team may nominate another team that they competed against or another team encountered between rounds. The SC Bar will not recommend a particular process by which each team determines their nomination, but suggests that coaches take student input into account when completing the nomination ballot. How a team reaches the decision to nominate another team for this award is completely within the purview of that team.

All ballots are due before a team leaves the courtroom and after the third round. Ballots will be submitted electronically via the jotform link provided by SC Bar. For questions regarding this award, contact the SC Bar staff.