

**ADVOCATES**  
at  
UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON | LAW CENTER

**2016 JOHN BLACK MOOT COURT COMPETITION FAQ**

**When can I sign up?**

Participants can sign up online at <http://goo.gl/forms/EU7HG28Xlm> anytime from February 18 to 25. The Advocates will be tabling at the Commons from 12-1 PM and 5-6PM on February 18, 2016 through February 25, 2016 to accept the payment of your competition fees. If you cannot make these times, you can email J.T. at [j.e.reinert@gmail.com](mailto:j.e.reinert@gmail.com) to set up a time to make payment.

**How much does it cost?**

Cost per participant is \$15 for Advocates members and \$25 for non-Advocates members.

**When will I receive the fact pattern?**

The fact pattern will be released on Friday February 19<sup>th</sup> for those who sign up and pay on Thursday February 18<sup>th</sup>, and will be published on the UHLC Advocates Website(<http://www.law.uh.edu/organizations/advocates/johnblack.asp>) on Sunday February 21<sup>st</sup> for any Team to draft an appellate brief and to develop their arguments based on the closed research in that fact pattern. All teams that have signed up and paid will receive the fact pattern as they sign up and pay.

**How many preliminary rounds must I compete in as a participant?**

Each participant will compete in **THREE** preliminary rounds before the top 8 participants advance to the quarter finals. The competition director reserves the right to hold 0-2 preliminary rounds, should the tournament so require.

**Do we need to prepare for both sides of the case?**

**YES.** Each participant will have to present for the Appellant and the Appellee at least once during the preliminary rounds.

**Do I need to sign in before my round? Do I need to sign out afterwards?**

You must sign in outside 115 BLB so we may begin the rounds in a timely manner. Additionally, you will need to sign in to receive your room assignment. You do not need to sign out after the round is finished.

**Is there a prize?**

Yes, there is cash prize!

**Do I have to write a brief even if I don't want credit for the competition?**

No, only competitors who want to receive one hour of credit must write a brief.

**If I want to get credit, what are the requirements?**

You must petition for credit at the Blakely website, <https://www.law.uh.edu/blakely/credit-petition.asp>. You must also write a brief. All briefs must represent a good faith effort. If only one team member wants to get credit, the brief must be a minimum of 8 double spaced pages, excluding cover page, table of contents, table of authorities, and questions presented. If both members of a

team want to get credit, they should turn in one 15 page brief for the team. The 15 pages exclude cover page, table of contents, table of authorities, and questions presented. The brief should be written in accordance with the rules of the Texas Supreme Court. The brief must be emailed to J.T. Reinert (jereiner@central.uh.edu) by March 18, 2016 at 5pm. If your brief and credit petition is accepted, then you can register for the course “5132 Advocates - Blakely - Moot Court – RETRO” for your one-hour non-substantive competition credit.

**If I think someone broke the rules, whom should I contact?**

Please see J.T. Reinert, the competition director, ASAP. He can be reached at (214) 215-9998.

**What if I have an emergency?**

Please see J.T. Reinert, the competition director, ASAP. Contact information is above.