

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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UH Law Center moot court competition and symposium to focus on terror, use of 3D printers to make weapons

Sixteen teams will vie for 2016 Andrews Kurth Moot Court National Championship

Jan. 7, 2016 – The nation’s top moot court programs will participate Jan. 28-30 in the 8th annual Moot Court National Championship with an accompanying symposium hosted by the Blakely Advocacy Institute at the University of Houston Law Center.

This year’s problem focuses on terrorism and the hypothetical question of whether a person can be charged for making an explosive device or firearm parts with the use of a 3D printer. Student advocates will also argue whether a person can be prosecuted for sharing potentially dangerous computer code with a person who is affiliated with a known, foreign terrorist network.

“The Blakely Advocacy Institute and Andrews Kurth are pleased to carry on their partnership in the Advocating for Advocacy Program,” said Jim Lawrence, director of the institute. “This partnership provides crucial support to the Andrews Kurth Moot Court National Championship, and has established the competition as one of the premier moot court tournaments in the country.”

Lawrence devised the annual championship tournament with 16 “best of the best” moot court programs qualifying based on a point system for their showings in competitions throughout the year.

The teams are encouraged to attend a related symposium titled “Terror – Will You Wear the Shackles?” The symposium will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Jan. 28 at the Doubletree Hotel in downtown Houston. The symposium’s panelists are Joshua Dratel, President of Joshua L. Dratel, P.C., Alamdar Hamdani, assistant U.S. Attorney, and John Rizzo, senior counsel at Steptoe & Johnson, and a former Acting General Counsel at the Central Intelligence Agency. UHLC Professor Meredith Duncan, who teaches courses in professional responsibility, torts and criminal law, will moderate the symposium.

The 2016 teams include Chicago-Kent College of Law, Florida Coastal College School of Law, Georgetown University Law Center, Liberty University School of Law, Loyola University Chicago School of Law, Michigan State University College of Law, New York University School of Law, Regent University School of Law, Seton Hall School of Law, SMU Dedman School of Law, South Texas College of Law, St. John’s University School of Law, Stetson University College of Law, Texas Tech University School of Law, UC Hastings College of Law, and the University of Oklahoma College of Law.

The moot court tournament is sponsored by Andrews Kurth LLP.

[For more information, click here to visit the Moot Court Championship's website.](#)