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2021 American College of Bankruptcy Fourth Circuit Moot Court Event

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OVERVIEW

2021 American College of Bankruptcy Fourth Circuit Moot Court Event

The third American College of Bankruptcy Fourth Circuit Bankruptcy Regional Moot Court (the “Regional”) is scheduled for Monday, February 15. This will be a virtual event.

The Regional includes law schools from the Fourth and D.C. Circuits and is designed in part to serve as a formal practice for law school teams considering competing in the (virtual) Duberstein Moot Court Competition at St. John’s University School of Law in New York City in March most years, and virtually this year (the “Duberstein Competition”). The Regional is not an elimination round for the Duberstein Competition.

For the 2021 Regional, teams do not need to submit briefs. Each team should prepare to argue for both the petitioner and the respondent and, schedule permitting, will be provided the opportunity to do so in the preliminary round. The two teams with the highest average score in the preliminary round will advance to the final round.

Awards will be given at the Regional, which will include a trophy for first place and top oralist. Prominent bankruptcy practitioners and judges will judge rounds, and teams will receive constructive input from the judges following each round.

To participate in the 2021 Regional, please review the attached information and Official Rules, complete the attached Application and return the Application electronically or by mail to Denise Neary.

Event Contact Information:

Denise Neary, Director of Judicial Education

Berkeley Judicial Institute

Nearys51@comcast.net

Elizabeth Wiggins, Director of Research

The Federal Judicial Center

bwiggins@fjc.gov

AGENDA*

2021 American College of Bankruptcy Fourth Circuit Moot Court Event

9:00	Team Check-In, assignments
9:15 – 10:30	Round One and Feedback
10:35 – 11:50	Round Two and Feedback
11:50 – 12:30	Lunch
12:30 – 1:45	Round Three and Feedback
2:00 – 3:15	Final Round, Presentation of Awards

*This agenda assumes six teams will compete. Should fewer teams be interested, the day might be reconfigured or expanded.

APPLICATION FORM

2021 American College of Bankruptcy Fourth Circuit Moot Court Event

NAME OF SCHOOL: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____

CONTACT ADDRESS: _____

CONTACT PHONE: _____

CONTACT EMAIL: _____

NUMBER OF TEAMS (PLEASE CIRCLE ONE): 1 2

**NUMBER OF ATTENDING PERSONS (INCLUDING TEAM MEMBERS, FACULTY
AND ADVISORS):** _____

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM ELECTRONICALLY
NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 11, 2020
to DENISE NEARY, nearys51@comcast.net
(Please request a read receipt when sending.)**

TEAM INFORMATION SHEET

2021 American College of Bankruptcy Fourth Circuit Moot Court Event

(Please complete a separate information sheet for each team attending)

PRIMARY CONTACT INFORMATION FOR ALL OFFICIAL COMPETITION COMMUNICATION:

SCHOOL NAME: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER (OFFICE/MOBILE): _____

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR TEAM MEMBERS:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____

MOBILE: _____

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR COACHES/ADVISERS TRAVELING WITH TEAM:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____

MOBILE: _____

***PLEASE RETURN THIS INFORMATION TO DENISE NEARY NO LATER THAN
DECEMBER 11, 2020.***

OFFICIAL RULES

2021 American College of Bankruptcy Fourth Circuit Moot Court Event

I. QUALIFICATIONS/NATURE OF EVENT

Any accredited law school located in D.C., Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia may enter one or two teams to participate in the Regional. The event is designed to serve as a formal practice for the Fourth and D.C. Circuit law schools that are considering competing in the 2021 Duberstein Competition; where there is space available, advocates from accredited law schools outside the Fourth and D.C. Circuits may also participate,

II. TEAMS

A. NUMBER AND COMPOSITION OF TEAMS

Each participating school may enter one or two teams, composed of two or three students each. All team members must be enrolled at the school that they represent at the time of the competition.

B. SUBSTITUTION OF TEAM MEMBERS

There shall be no substitution of team members after the Application Form is submitted, except upon written permission from the Regional.

III. BRIEFS

There shall be no brief submissions for the Regional. Competitors are scored on oral advocacy only.

IV. ARGUMENTS

A. ROUNDS

- 1. IN GENERAL.** Each team will argue in the preliminary round. Each team should be prepared to argue for both the petitioner and the respondent and, schedule permitting, will be provided the opportunity to do so in the preliminary round. The two teams with the highest scores in the preliminary round will advance to the final round.

2. **PAIRINGS OF TEAMS.** Pairing in the Preliminary Round will be chosen at random.
3. **TIME AND PLACE.** Oral arguments will take place virtually on February 15, 2021.

B. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WINNING TEAM

The winner of the 2021 Regional will be announced at the end of the day.

C. SCORING

The scores for each round will be based on oral argument.

D. LENGTH OF ARGUMENTS

Each team is limited to thirty (30) minutes of oral argument. Two (2) team members will participate in each argument. The division of the thirty (30) minutes allotted for the argument may be made at the discretion of the team, but no team member shall be apportioned less than ten (10) minutes for oral argument. Petitioner may reserve up to three (3) minutes of rebuttal time prior to the commencement of the argument. Teams that reserve rebuttal shall notify the judges and/or bailiff of how to deduct rebuttal time. Time reserved for rebuttal shall be counted as part of the thirty (30) minutes allotted for the argument.

Judges reserve the right to allow for additional time at their discretion.

E. BEST ORAL ADVOCATE

The competitor with the highest mean (average) score for oral argument will be chosen as the best oral advocate. The winner of the best oral advocate award will be announced at after the final round.

V. OTHER RULES

A. ATTENDING OTHER ARGUMENTS

No team member, coach or faculty adviser of a team participating in the Regional may attend an argument of any other team during the preliminary round. The number of attendees to each argument is limited to the competing team members, their families, two coaches or two faculty advisors. All participants may attend, and are strongly encouraged to attend, the final round.

B. COMMUNICATION DURING ROUND

There shall be no communication in any form from any member of the audience, including other team members sitting in the audience, once a round has begun.

C. PENALTIES/AMENDMENTS

The Regional may assess such penalties, including disqualification, as it deems reasonable and appropriate for failure to comply with the foregoing rules. Any decisions, penalties or other actions taken by the Regional will be final and binding on all participants. The Regional reserves the right to make and implement any further rules and procedures deemed advisable for the conduct of this event.

D. CONTACT INFORMATION

EVENT CONTACT:

Denise Neary,
Nearys51@comcast.net, 301-738-864

Beth Wiggins,
bwiggins@fjc.gov,

EVENT LOCATION:

The event will be hosted virtually; link to be sent prior to the event.