



Supreme Court of Appeals State of West Virginia

News

Administrative Office
1900 Kanawha Blvd., East
Bldg. 1, Room E-316
Charleston, West Virginia 25305
(304) 340-2305 Jennifer Bundy
(304) 340-2306 April Harless
(304) 558-4219 / TTY
(304) 558-1212 / FAX
Web Site: www.courtsvw.gov
Twitter: [WVCourts](https://twitter.com/WVCourts)
Flickr: www.flickr.com/photos/courtsvw/
Email: Jennifer.Bundy@courtsvw.gov
Email: April.Harless@courtsvw.gov

Wood County fifth-graders to present mock trial in circuit courtroom

For immediate release Wednesday, February 20, 2013

PARKERSBURG, W.Va. – A group of gifted fifth-grade students from elementary schools across Wood County will present a mock trial before Fourth Judicial Circuit (Wirt and Wood Counties) Judge J.D. Beane at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, February 21, in his courtroom, Room 421, in the Wood County Judicial Building in Parkersburg.

The students are from elementary schools in Mineral Wells, Vienna, and Parkersburg and are in gifted classes taught by Jennifer Sisson.

The mock trial is part of West Virginia Law Adventure, a civics education program sponsored by the West Virginia Supreme Court for middle school and high school students and approved by the West Virginia Board of Education. Because the state school board changed its Social Studies Content Standards and Objectives last year, the Supreme Court opened the mock trial program to fifth graders this year.

West Virginia Law Adventure allows participating classes to write their own scripts based on one of three criminal case scenarios in the West Virginia Law Adventure rules book. The case scenarios are designed by the Young Lawyers Section of the West Virginia State Bar.

Each participating class must perform its script in front of a judicial officer – a magistrate, family court judge, or circuit judge – before sending in its entry. Winners in each category are invited to perform their scripts in front of a Supreme Court Justice at the Capitol. Students' trips to the local courthouses and the Supreme Court are paid for by a grant from the West Virginia Bar Foundation.

##