



Supreme Court of Appeals State of West Virginia

News

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Classes across the state embark on the W.Va. Law Adventure

For immediate release

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – Students at several middle schools and high schools across the state are participating in this year’s West Virginia Law Adventure, a civic education program of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia.

West Virginia Law Adventure is more than performing mock trials. The Young Lawyers Section of the West Virginia State Bar drafts three criminal scenarios from which middle school and high school classes choose. The young lawyers also judge the trial scripts in several grade categories. Each participating class must act out its script in front of a judicial officer – a magistrate, family court judge, or circuit judge – before sending in its entry. The winning classes visit the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia in the spring.

Travel expenses are partially paid for by a grant from the West Virginia Bar Foundation.

The following are West Virginia Law Adventure mock trials scheduled to date:

- **Roane-Jackson Technical Center** students will present their mock trials before Jackson County Magistrate Jacqueline R. Casto at 12:15 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 4. (The mock trials will be held Feb. 24 if school or courts are closed due to snow on Feb. 4.) The trials will occur at the Jackson County Courthouse, 100 Main St., Ripley.
- **East Fairmont High School** students will perform their mock trials at 9 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 12, in the courtroom of Sixteenth Judicial Circuit (Marion County) Judge Michael J. Aloï in the Marion County Courthouse, 219 Adams St., Fairmont. The snow date will be Feb. 17.
- **Pritchard Elementary School** students will perform a mock trial at 9:30 a.m. on Feb. 19 in front of Twenty-Fourth Judicial Circuit (Wayne County) Judge Darrell Pratt in the Wayne County Courthouse, 700 Hendricks Street, Wayne.
- **Stonewall Jackson Middle School** students will present mock trials in front of Thirteenth Judicial Circuit (Kanawha County) Judge Louis H. “Duke” Bloom at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 19. (The snow date will be Feb. 25.) The

trial will occur in Judge Bloom's courtroom in the Kanawha County Judicial Building, 111 Court St., Charleston.

- **East Hardy High School** students will perform three mock trials beginning at 9 a.m. Friday, Feb. 20, before Twenty-Second Judicial Circuit (Hampshire, Hardy, and Pendleton Counties) Judge H. Charles Carl III in the Hardy County Courthouse, 204 Washington St., Moorefield.
- **Grafton High School** students will perform four mock trials in front of Taylor County Magistrate Rick R. Reese beginning at 10 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 20. The trials will occur in the Taylor County Courthouse, 214 West Main St., Grafton.
- **Morgantown High School** students also are participating but have not set a date to present their case in a courtroom.

West Virginia Law Adventure is one of several civics projects of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia. Others include Marble Monday trivia on Twitter @WVcourts, Robes to Schools, and LAWS (Legal Advancement of West Virginia Students). To learn more about the Court's civics projects, visit <http://www.courtswv.gov/public-resources/student-resources/index.html> or contact Kandi Greter, Public Education Coordinator, at 304-340-2755 or kandi.greter@courtswv.gov.

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