



# MOOT COURT COMPETITION TEAMS

2025-2026



LAW.INDIANA.EDU/STUDENTS/ADVOCACY

LANEMCFA@IU.EDU

These slides and many more details are on our school's website.  
Email your materials *or* questions to Prof. McFadden.

# What do appellate moot court teams do?

## **Write Briefs**



## **Present Oral Argument**



# Why do a moot court competition?

01

Valuable  
practical  
experience in  
writing and  
advocacy.

02

A chance to  
learn a  
complicated  
legal topic  
inside and out.

03

It's fun!

# Advocacy at Maurer



## **1L**

LRW arguments  
Brief writing  
Bailiff for Sherman Minton or  
other competitions



## **2L**

Appellate Advocacy  
Sherman Minton Competition  
Trial or ADR Competitions



## **3L**

Advanced Appellate Advocacy  
Advocacy (Moot Court) Board  
External Competition Teams



HOW WILL I KNOW  
WHAT TO DO?

# Maurer supports our teams

- *Competition Team Handbook* will fully explain the details
- You'll meet with Prof. McFadden or your coach before you start to set a specific schedule
- Regular practices with Prof. McFadden and other faculty advisors
- Practice moots with the Competition Board, faculty, and alumni
- Maurer pays for travel for all competitions in the United States
- We will connect you with alumni and faculty with experience in your competition



# A HISTORY OF SUCCESS

Appellate Moot Court teams at IU Maurer School of Law





# National Moot Court Competition (NYC Bar Association)

- Issue of general interest (civil or criminal, usually with a constitutional element) argued to U.S. Supreme Court
- 2-3 members per team
- Problem: mid-September
- Brief due: late October
- Regional Arguments: November
- National Finals: January

# Two Regional Quarterfinalist Teams in 2025





# National Appellate Advocacy Competition

- Issue of general interest (civil or criminal, usually with a constitutional element) argued to U.S. Supreme Court
- 2-3 members per team
- Problem: mid-November
- Brief due: early January
- Regional Arguments: late February
- National Finals: early April

Faculty advisor: Prof. McFadden



# National Appellate Advocacy Competition Regional Quarterfinalists, 2022



Yael Massen '22  
3L Robert Gassman  
2L Sydney Schnur (bailiff)

# National Appellate Advocacy Competition Regional Finalists, 2023



3L Hannah Pitcher  
3L Carrie Speer  
2L John Vastag





**JOHN VASTAG  
(TOP FIVE ORALIST)  
& RYAN DAY  
REGIONAL QUARTERFINALISTS  
AT THE 2024 ABA NATIONAL  
APPELLATE ADVOCACY COMPETITION  
IN BOSTON, MA**

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

**AND SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR BAILIFF,  
KYLE POBANZ!**



**MOOT  
COURT**



*Congratulations!*

**Alivia Benedict &  
Allison McDevitt**  
Oral Argument SemiFinalists



**2025 ABA NATIONAL APPELLATE  
ADVOCACY COMPETITION,  
OKLAHOMA CITY REGIONALS**

*Congratulations!*

# Allyson McBride & Adam Rosenthal

Oral Argument Finalists  
Top Five Best Oralist (McBride)

**2025 ABA NATIONAL APPELLATE  
ADVOCACY COMPETITION,  
OKLAHOMA CITY REGIONALS**






# Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition

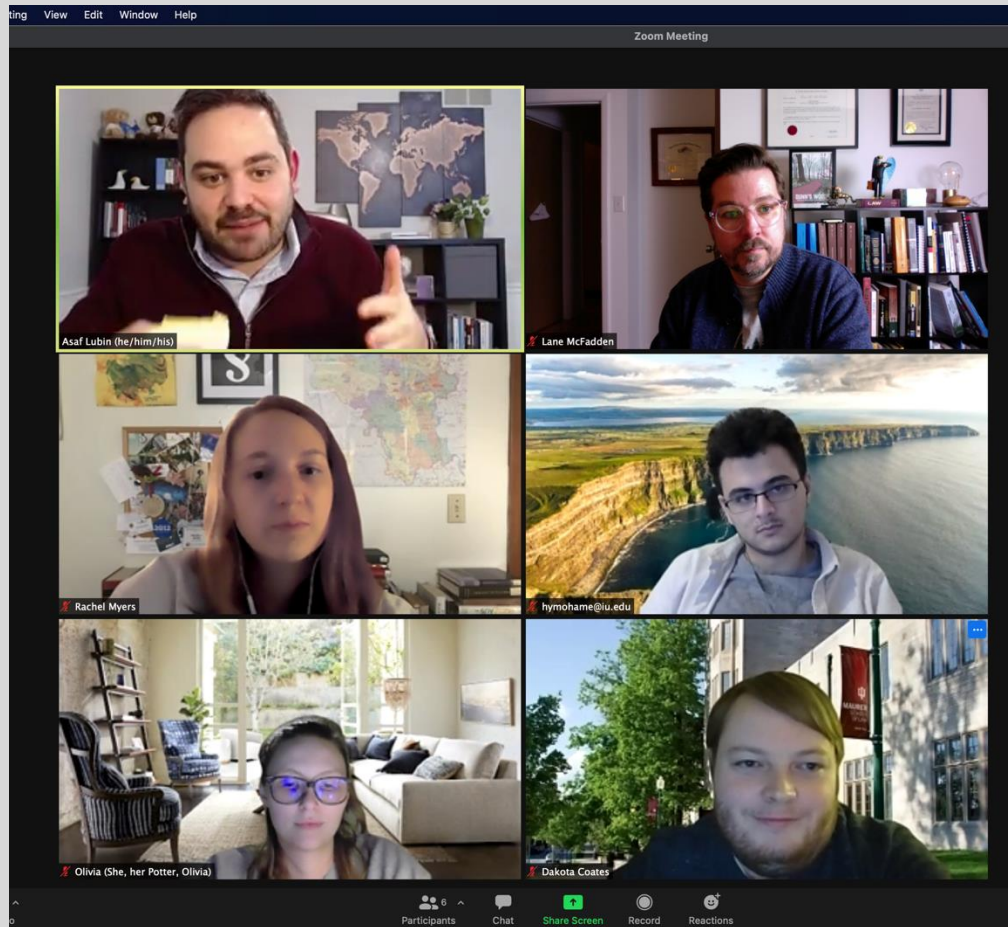
- Complex and timely international law issues
- Up to 5 members
- Problem: mid-September
- Memorials due: early January
- Regional Arguments: February
- Global finals: April (Washington, DC)

Faculty advisors: Prof. Asaf Lubin,  
Prof. McFadden

A collage featuring a world map, a list of countries, and a building. The world map is partially visible on the left, showing North and South America. The list of countries is on the right, including Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Tanzania, Thailand, Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, Uzbekistan, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. The building is a large, modern structure with a glass facade, possibly a courthouse or government building.

Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia  
e, Singapore, Slovakia, Sloveni  
outh Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka,  
Switzerland, Tanzania, Thaila  
Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda,  
Ukraine, United Arab Emira  
United Kingdom, United St:  
Uzbekistan, Zambia,  
Zimbabwe

# Phillip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, Regional Semifinalists 2020-2021



- Rachel Myers, Olivia Potter, Dakota Coates, and Hussein Mohamed
- **Second Best Memorial**

# Phillip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, Regional Semifinalists 2022-2023



- Jonathan DeBruin, Shannon Ellery, Mariah DeHoop, Matty Weinberg, & Cate Demetrovich
- **Second Best Memorial**



*Congratulations!*

**RISHAV AIKAT, NOOR QURESHI, &  
CARISSA MARGRAF**

Memorial-Writing Honors  
at the 2025 Jessup International Law  
Moot Court Competition, Portland Regionals



**JESSUP**  
COMPETITION 2025

# National Moot Court Rankings

- “Big Three” competitions worth more than others
- Points for Best Speaker, Best Brief, and First Place Team
- Points for finishing near the top of bigger competitions
- Top 16 are invited to the Kurth National Championships



**#31**  
**2023**

**#45**  
**2024**

**#41**  
**2025**





# OTHER COMPETITIONS

# Seventh Circuit Moot Court Competition

- Open only to schools in Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin
- Problem released: mid-January
- Briefs due: mid-February
- Competition: early March in Chicago





**Alivia Benedict  
and Allison McDevitt  
won**

**Best Appellee Brief**

**at the  
2024 Seventh Circuit  
Moot Court Competition  
in Chicago, IL**

**CONGRATULATIONS!**



**MOOT  
COURT**



*Congratulations!*

# **ANNIE HOODECHECK & EMMA LEONARD**

2025 Seventh Circuit  
Court of Appeals Moot Court Competition  
Oral Argument Champions and  
Best Brief Award Winners





# Miller National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition

- Environmental and administrative law issues
- 2-3 members
- Problem: first week of October
- Brief due: Tuesday before Thanksgiving
- Arguments: late February



Faculty advisors: Prof. Rob  
Fischman, Prof. McFadden





**Amani Khoury**  
**Noah Hines**  
**Sunny Straw**

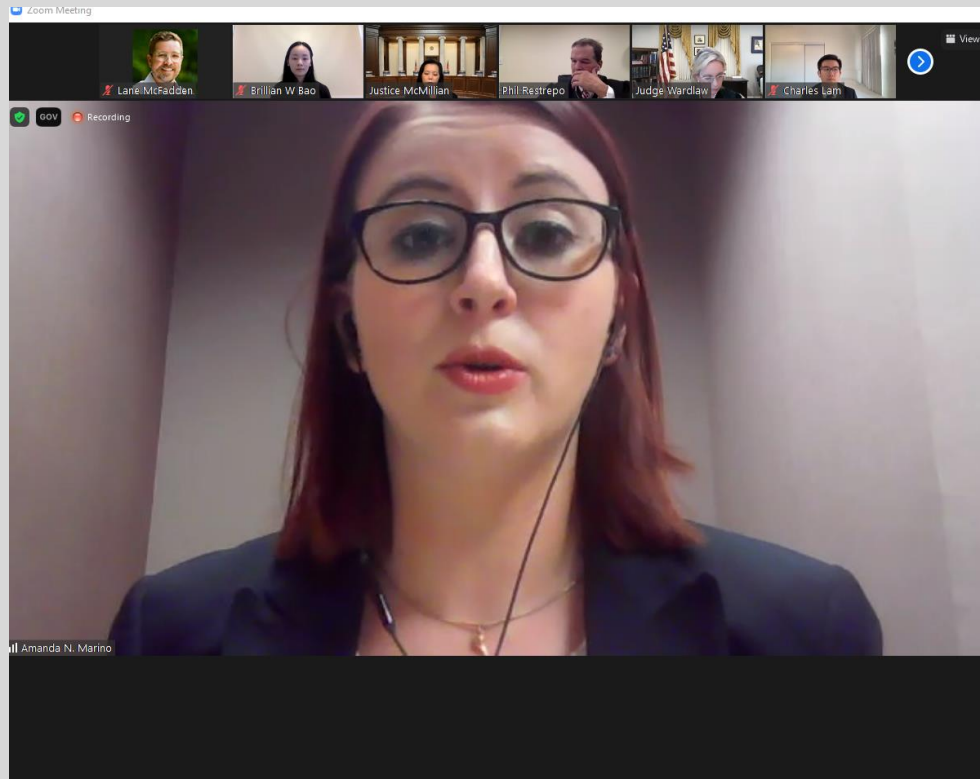
**Quarterfinalists**  
**at the**  
**2024 National**  
**Environmental Law**  
**Moot Court Competition**  
**at Pace University**

**CONGRATULATIONS!**



# ABA First Amendment and Media Law Diversity Competition

**2022: Amanda Marino, Finalist Team  
& Best Oralist**



**2025: Joy Atadoga, Finalist Team  
& Best Brief**





# Global Antitrust Invitational Moot Court Competition

- Complex issues of antitrust law
- 2-3 members
- Problem: early December
- Brief due: early January
- Arguments: first weekend of March

Faculty advisor: Prof. Shana  
Wallace



# Global Antitrust Invitational Moot Court Competition

- 2019: National Champions
- 2021: Best Oralist & Best Brief
- 2024: Quarterfinalists
- 2025: Quarterfinalists





# Chicago Bar Association Moot Court Competition

- Issue of general interest (civil or criminal, usually with a constitutional element)
- 3 members
- Problem: mid-August
- Brief due: late October
- Arguments: November 17-19 (weekend before Thanksgiving)

Faculty advisor: Prof. McFadden





# Giles S. Rich Patent Law Moot Court Competition

- Complex issues of patent law
- Problem: issued in December
- Briefs due: January 31
- Arguments: mid-March
- (national finals in April)

Faculty advisor: Prof. Mark Janis  
(competition run by the Center for  
Intellectual Property Research)



# Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Court Competition

- Complex issues of international business transactions
- Briefs due before December
- Arguments:
  - mid-March in Vienna, Austria OR
  - Late March in Hong Kong
- Compete in fall ADR competition to try out

Faculty advisor: Prof. Angela Raymond (Kelley School of Business)



# Maurer students do many other competitions

- Cyber 9/12 challenge – 2024 semifinalists (Tanner Wilburn, James Romano, Zach Smith, and Uduak Ekott)
- NYU Immigration Law Competition
- National Health Law Competition (Southern Illinois University)
- Oxford International IP Moot Court Competition (Maurer was one of only two US teams invited in 2024)

# Maurer students do many other competitions


- Prince Memorial Evidence Competition – Brooklyn, NY
- Kaufman Securities Law Competition – Fordham, NYC
- Billings Exum Frye Constitutional Law Competition – Greensboro, NC
- Bryant Moore Moot Court Competition (Howard University)
- Family Law Competition in Albany, NY
- Sports Law Negotiations and Moot Court Competitions at Tulane



<https://law.lsu.edu/advocacy/resources/list-of-national-moot-court-competitions/>

# Mock Trial

- We compete in the STAC Regionals annually
- Team is arranged by the Advocacy Coordinator of the Moot Court Executive Board
- More information available in the fall – problem is not released until early spring semester 2026



HOW DO I JOIN?

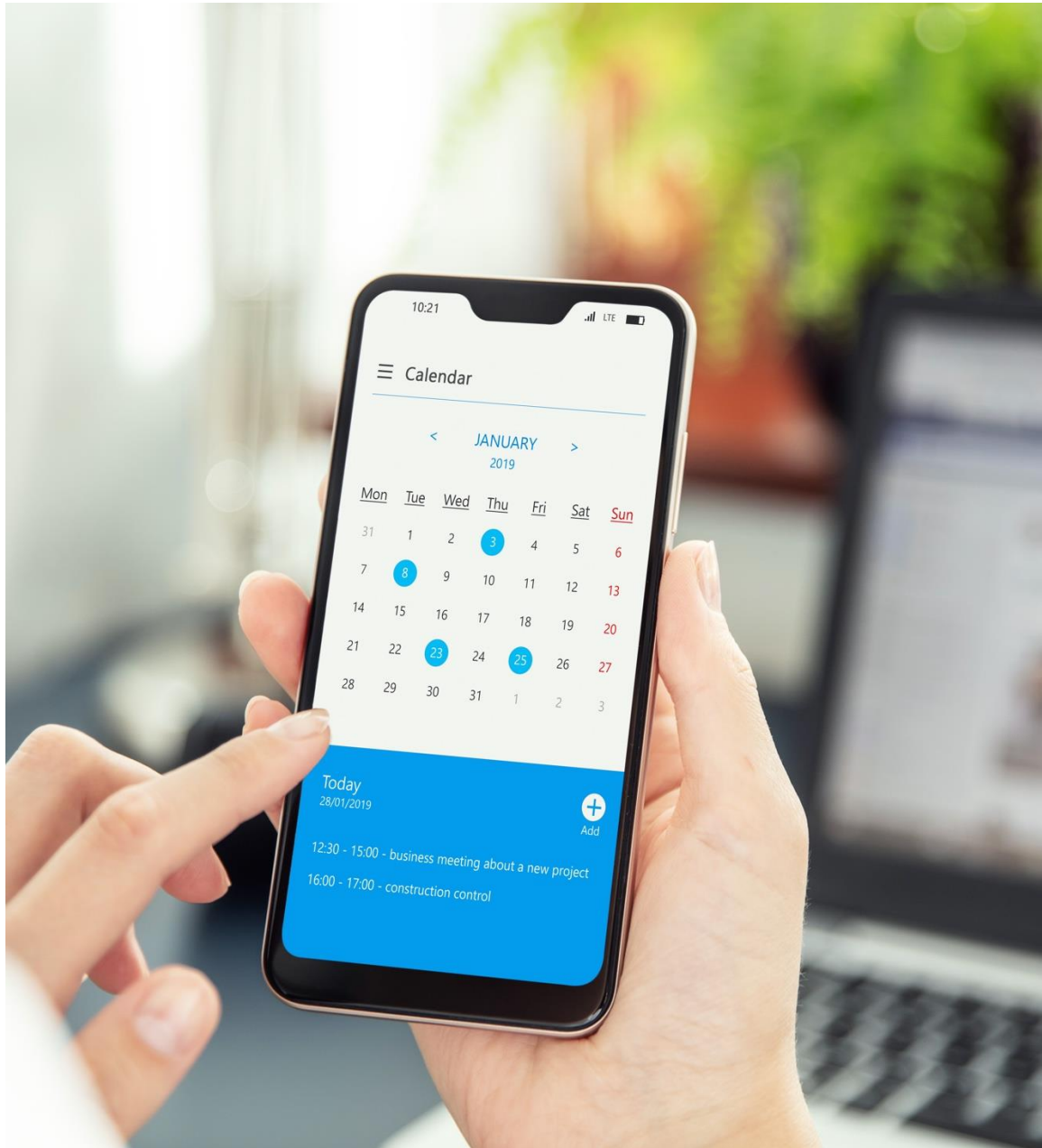
# Eligibility

- Teams are open to all rising 2Ls and 3Ls
- Preference will be given to 3Ls with Sherman-Minton or other oral advocacy experience
- You can apply as a team or as an individual



## 2Ls must enroll in B642: Appellate Advocacy

- 1 credit hour, Pass/Fail-- No final exam or paper
- Combination of lecture and video presentations
- 2 practice arguments
- Writing exercises
- Learn about appellate review, the specifics of brief writing, and a lot of “nuts and bolts” skills for written and oral advocacy.



# Plan ahead

- Moot Court takes time!
- Most competitions will involve work over winter break.
- Assume that the three weeks before argument will be *very* busy.



## One hour of academic credit

Participants can enroll in B734 (External Moot Court Team) for one hour of academic credit.

Additional credit hours may be available through directed reading or directed research with affiliated faculty.





Apply by next  
Thursday

For the “major”  
competitions, apply  
before end of classes

Teams will be formed  
before graduation

Email a resume and a  
statement of interest  
to Prof. McFadden

## Student-initiated competitions

- Check the website for a list of available competitions
- Find other interested students
- Read website for application requirements
- Apply before **August 22, 2025**



Moot Court is  
competitive

Especially popular  
competitions will  
require tryouts

All applicants will  
be given a chance



LANEMCFA@IU.EDU

Send your materials *and* questions to Prof. McFadden by email