

Business Law Sharing Session

Mock Trial Ideas:

Reminder: the course is **Business Law**, so leave out blood & gore!

Suggestions to make the experience more:

- Begin with videos, then move to scripted mock trial
- graduation robe for judge
- gavel
- dress according to character
- take specific notes of each person to use during the debriefing
- video the case
- help from law firms
- use the Internet to research (pictures that represent concepts, laws, etc.
- run two trials at the same time ½ class in one, other half in 2nd)
- import a jury from outside the class (if not enough to run two trials at once)
- use evidence that students have created
- debrief after trial

Mock Trial and General Resources

1. *Minnesota Center for Community Legal Education* has a very good .pdf document titled “Mini-Mock Trial Manual” available for download at <http://civicallyspeaking.org/lessons.html>
The first few pages give an outline of what should go on, generally, and then there are several quite short mock trials for reference. There are many links at the homepage as well at <http://www.civicallyspeaking.org/>
2. www.civicvalues.org (look for Mock Trial link)

One very good trial from them is the 21st annual New Mexico HS Mock Trial Program (1999), which is *State of New Mexico v. Julie Starr*
3. The *Street Law* textbook and website have many resources, including mock trials for academic use. One quite good one online, though quite long, is “*Scott Walker v. Tanya Brewster*” available at: <http://www.streetlaw.org/en/StreetLawPublications.aspx> The *Street Law* textbooks have several short mock trials as well.
4. To see up-to-date cases (thought criminal for the most part), try:

<http://www.cnn.com/JUSTICE/>
5. Alison Williams, Box Elder High, has a great website with quick links:

www.behs.besd.net/buslaw/

6. **Utah Law-Related Education Project** - A great lending library for mock trials, as well as videos, etc. (shipped to your school):

<http://www.lawrelatededucation.org/>

("Law-related education materials, including books, lesson plans, mock trials, videos, and DVD's are available for checkout for two weeks from our lending library. To check out materials, please e-mail *Utah LRE* at lre@icw.com. The materials will be shipped to you at no cost. The teacher/school will need to pay the cost of return mail to the office.")

Address:

645 S. 200 E., Suite 101
Salt Lake City 84111
801.322.1802

7. *Stossel in the Classroom* videos that are short and quite good at questioning laws, seeing both sides, etc. www.stosselintheclassroom.org or email them at custsvc@stosselintheclassroom.org
8. www.izzit.org dvds include "The Drew Carey Project" and "Eminent Domain" that are good general reference, current situations.

Speakers: (there are MANY areas, this is just one that was quite good)

Utah Department of Financial Institutions (fraud, scams, credit)

David Barker, 801-538-8849 (haven't tried him for a year but he was good when he presented)

Court Trips:

Matheson Court

450 S. State
801-238-7300

Federal Court

350 S. Main
Michele Roybal
801-524-6128

Many local courts also.

**“When you are
on trial, you
place your life in
the hands of 12
people who
weren’t smart**

enough to get
out of jury duty."

–Lew Scannon

Business Law Mock Trial Grading Sheet				
Name	Part	Dressed Appropriately	Lines Learned	Appropriate Behavior

Comments

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Overall Grade

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