University of Memphis
2013-2014 Moot Court Board

Chief Justice
Lee Whitwell

Associate Justice
Advanced Moot Court
Whitney Manning

Associate Justice
Mock Trial
Sam Hinson

Associate Justice
1L Competition
Abigail Hall

Faculty Advisor and
Director of Advocacy
Barbara Kritchevsky

Moot Court Board

The Moot Court Board of the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law of the University of Memphis is dedicated to recognizing and fostering excellence in both appellate and trial advocacy. The Moot Court Board consists of twenty third-year law students who the outgoing board selects from the most qualified applicants. The incoming board is announced during the spring semester prior to the 1L competition.

The Moot Court Board is primarily responsible for organizing and coordinating all intra-school competitions. The Board also fields teams for inter-school competitions. The traveling teams have been consistently competitive with some of the most prestigious schools in the country and have proudly represented the University of Memphis every year.

Annual In-School Competitions

Each year the Moot Court Board administers and facilitates three in-school competitions. The in-school competitions provide great opportunities for students to develop and sharpen their writing and oral advocacy skills. All students are encouraged to participate. Participants can earn course credit. Winning teams and high-scoring individuals receive awards at the end of each competition.

Fall Semester

Advanced Moot Court Competition: Second and third-year students present appellate-style arguments before a mock Supreme Court. First-year students may serve as bailiffs.
Spring Semester

Mock Trial Competition: Second and third-year students conduct a mock jury trial from start to finish. Jury members are welcome, but competition judges decide the final outcome of each round. First-year students may serve as witnesses or bailiffs during each round.

1L Competition: First-year students craft arguments for the legal issues that they brief in Legal Methods. Competitors engage in persuasive dialogue with a panel of judges.

How Do I Join The Moot Court Board?

The Moot Court Board is selected each year from the most qualified advocates. Second-year law students must sign up in the spring and submit a grade authorization release form. The advocate’s index score— a score based on oral and brief scores, round-advancement, and the advocate’s professionalism determine who makes the Board. Members of inter-school competition teams receive bonus credit.

Students must participate in at least two board-sponsored competitions (in-school or travel teams) during their first and second years of law school and be in good academic standing to be eligible for board membership.

Inter-school Competition Teams

The Moot Court Board fields and supports teams that represent the law school at inter-school competitions. Travel team participants develop advanced advocacy skills through individualized coaching from faculty and local attorneys.

Travel Teams

- National Moot Court
- Frederick Douglass Moot Court
- National Mock Trial
- Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial
- ABA Moot Court
- Jessup International Law Moot Court
- Duberstein Bankruptcy Moot Court
- Wagner Labor Law Moot Court
- ABA Mediation