

DUBERSTEIN COMPETITION
Brief Evaluation

Team No. _____ Side Represented _____ Judge's Name _____

I. LEGAL REASONING & USE OF AUTHORITY

- A. Questions Presented (5) _____(out of 5)
- Adequately presents the issues
 - Favorably phrased to the advocate's position
- B. Summary of Argument (5) _____(out of 5)
- Concise yet developed and thorough
- C. Statement of Facts (5) _____(out of 5)
- Concise
 - Persuasive without being argumentative or disingenuous
- D. Point Headings (5) _____(out of 5)
- Clear and persuasive using the active voice
 - Well organized to enhance the argument
- E. Argument (30) _____(out of 30)
- Comprehensive discussion of the important legal issues
 - Persuasive use of policy arguments and the record, including opinions below
 - Addresses and rebuts opposing arguments without losing focus on principal argument
 - Proper argumentative tone rather than neutral survey of issues
 - Logical structure and natural flow of argument
- F. Research (25) _____(out of 25)
- Leading case law on both sides of the argument identified
 - Favorable precedents effectively compared
 - Unfavorable precedents effectively confronted
 - Thorough: extends beyond obvious authorities

- II. **WRITING STYLE** (25) _____(out of 25)
- Clear writing style and cohesive rhythm
 - Clear language: avoids legal, Latin, and uncommon words
 - Maintains proper argumentative tone
 - Paraphrases relevant law (no excessive quoting)
 - No irrelevancies or unnecessary clutter
 - No textual errors such as spelling, grammar, typos, or citation

TOTAL (no fractions) _____(out of 100)

Please Note: For uniformity in brief grading, your scores should fall within the following ranges:

Extraordinary: 90-100 Very Good: 80-89 Good: 70-79 Poor: 50-69
Total score must be at least 50