

2008 August A. Rendigs National Products Liability Moot Court Competition
University of Cincinnati College of Law

Oral Argument Evaluation Form

Participant's Name: _____

Judge's Name: _____

Points Awarded

I. Command of the Issues: (Maximum Points = 30) _____ out of 30

- A. Superficial knowledge of law and facts. (1-6 points)
- B. Some knowledge of law and facts but uncomfortable with them. (7-12 points)
- C. Adequate understanding of law and facts but hesitant. (13-18 points)
- D. Good understanding of law and facts, but misses fine distinctions. (19-24 points)
- E. Full understanding of law and facts including fine distinction and subtleties. (25-30 points)

II. Organization and Reasoning: (Maximum Points = 20) _____ out of 20

- A. No organization, confusing and illogical. (1-4 points)
- B. Somewhat organized, but clearly below average. (5-8 points)
- C. More organized but with a difficult outline to follow. (9-12 points)
- D. Coherent with a cohesive outline and a clear presentation of points. (13-16 points)
- E. Concise and logical with a flowing outline and an outstanding presentation. (17-20 points)

III. Ability to Answer Questions: (Maximum Points = 20) _____ out of 20

- A. Very evasive, fails to address questions and fails to cite authority. (1-4 points)
- B. Attempts to answer questions and ultimately gives some answer. (5-8 points)
- C. Gives adequate answer. (9-12 points)
- D. Gives appropriate answers and possibly cites authority, but without smooth transitions back into the argument. (13-16 points)
- E. Clear and concise answers, uses authority effectively and smooth transitions back into the main argument. (17-20 points)

IV. Persuasiveness: (Maximum Points = 20) _____ out of 20

- A. Conveyed no real belief in position argued. (1-4 points)
- B. Monotonous and/or reading from notes. (5-8 points)
- C. Adequately persuasive but overly argumentative or conversational. (9-12 points)
- D. Persuasive but fails to display a true sense of conviction. (13-16 points)
- E. Very persuasive and conveys sincere belief in position well. (17-20 points)

V. Courtroom Manner and Appearance: (Maximum Points = 10) _____ out of 10

- A. Generally inarticulate, very nervous or overly casual. (1-2 points)
- B. Significant physical signs of nervousness and poor eye contact. (3-4 points)
- C. Some signs of nervousness that do not affect overall performance, adequate eye contact and adequately observant of decorum. (5-6 points)
- D. Confident, calm, good eye contact and respectful. (7-8 points)
- E. Confident, smooth, exceptional eye contact and very respectful. (9-10 points)

Total Score: _____ out of 100