

# MBA NEWS



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## **Massachusetts Bar Association and Brown Rudnick continue partnership that brings Mock Trial Program to high schools**

**Firm donates \$25,000 to fund program**

BOSTON, Mass. — Brown Rudnick LLP, through its Center for the Public Interest, has donated \$25,000 to the Massachusetts Bar Association's 2011 Statewide High School Mock Trial Program. Brown Rudnick has been the lead financial underwriter since 1998 and has contributed more than a quarter million dollars to the program, in its 26th year.

"We are profoundly grateful for Brown Rudnick's continued generosity and support of the Mock Trial Program, particularly during the MBA's 100 anniversary," MBA President Denise Squillante said. "The program is critical in its ability to educate young people about both the rule of law and role of the courts."

In honor of its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the MBA will be celebrating a century of service to the public, the profession and the rule of law throughout its 2010-11 association year.

First organized in 1985, the tournament places high school students in a simulated courtroom to assume the roles of lawyers and witnesses in a hypothetical case. This year's criminal case involves a charge of involuntary manslaughter against a teenager for the death of two people in a car accident. The defendant is accused of stealing a Stop sign as part of a high school scavenger hunt.

"Brown Rudnick is proud of its longstanding support of the MBA Mock Trial program," said Al Wallis, Executive Director of the Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest. "This important civic program helps students gain a better understanding of the justice system, promotes problem-solving skills, and develops leadership skills. We look forward to partnering with the MBA again in 2011, which is the 10th anniversary year of our Center for the Public Interest."

At least 1,500 students at more than 100 schools across the commonwealth are expected to participate in the 2011 Mock Trial Program. More than 100 lawyers across the state will serve as volunteer coaches and judges.

Last year, The Winsor School of Boston won the state championship and placed 11th in the national tournament.

*Incorporated in 1911, the Massachusetts Bar Association is a non-profit organization that serves the legal profession and the public by promoting the administration of justice, legal education, professional excellence and respect for the law. The MBA represents a diverse group of attorneys, judges and legal professionals across the commonwealth.*

*Brown Rudnick is an international law firm with offices in the United States and Europe. The Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest is a measure of the Firm's strong commitment to the community and serves as an umbrella entity encompassing the Firm's pro bono legal work, charitable giving, community involvement and public interest efforts. For more information, please visit [www.brownrudnickcenter.com](http://www.brownrudnickcenter.com).*