

# MBA NEWS



20 West Street, Boston, MA 02111-1204 • [communications@massbar.org](mailto:communications@massbar.org)

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**CONTACT:**

Jennifer Rosinski (617) 338-0675

Tricia M. Oliver (617) 338-0677

## **MASSACHUSETTS BAR ASSOCIATION CELEBRATES MORE THAN A DECADE OF SUPPORT FROM BROWN RUDNICK FIRM DONATES \$25,000 TO MOCK TRIAL PROGRAM**

BOSTON, Mass. — Brown Rudnick, through its Center for Public Interest, recently donated \$25,000 to the Massachusetts Bar Association's 2009 Mock Trial Program. Brown Rudnick has been the lead financial underwriter of this program, contributing more than a quarter million dollars since 1998.

"We are sincerely grateful for Brown Rudnick's continued support of this important community learning program, which provides hundreds of Bay State students participatory-educational opportunities with the legal system," MBA President Edward W. McIntyre said.

The popular high school Mock Trial competition begins its 24th year next month. 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 murder trial. The defendant raises Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) as an insanity defense and as a defense in mitigation of the charge of first degree murder.

"The MBA Mock Trial Program is a legacy project for Brown Rudnick," said Al Wallis, executive director of the Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest. "Supporting and coaching students in mock trials through several programs in Massachusetts and Connecticut has been an important part of our focus on improving inner city education. The mock trial partnership with the MBA program, which Brown Rudnick has supported for over a decade, has been consistently rewarding for all involved."

At least 1,500 students at more than 100 schools across the commonwealth are expected to participate in the 2009 Mock Trial Program. More than 100 lawyers across the state will serve as volunteer coaches and judges.

Last year, Newton South High School won the state championship and placed 22nd 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).*