



Federal Bar Association

The Younger Lawyers Division of the Federal Bar Association is pleased to announce the Annual Thurgood Marshall Memorial Moot Court Competition, which will be held on March 18-19, 2020, in Washington, D.C. This year is particularly special in that it marks the 25th anniversary of the Competition and the Centennial Celebration of the Federal Bar Association.

Several aspects of the competition make it one of the premier moot court competitions in the country. First, every round of the competition is held at a courthouse, as opposed to a law school or office setting. The opportunity for law students to present oral arguments in actual courtrooms is an invaluable experience. Second, all of the individuals who serve as judges in the competition are actual judges, practitioners, or scholars. This too reinforces the “real world” experience for competitors. Third, competitors have an opportunity at the awards reception that immediately follows the final round of the competition to network with federal judges and practitioners, who travel from around the country to attend the Federal Bar Association’s mid-year meeting. Finally, as an added bonus, each participant in the competition receives a free one-year law student membership in the Federal Bar Association.

The competition, designed for two-person teams, focuses on written briefs as well as oral arguments. Arguments for the competition are heard in Washington, D.C., and entry is limited to 40 teams. Available slots will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Please fill out the accompanying form if your school will be participating and email it directly to lmulhern@fedbar.org. You must send in your registration form to reserve your spot in the competition. Please note, however, that a team’s registration is not complete until the entry fee is received by the FBA. The entry fee is expected within two weeks of entry but due no later than January 8, 2020. Teams who fail to pay the registration fee by this date are subject to lose their spots in the competition to teams on the waitlist.

The following schedule has been established for the 2020 competition:

Registration & Entry Fee Deadline: January 8, 2020

Problem and rules distributed: January 13, 2020

Briefs due (must be received by): February 14, 2020

Oral Argument: March 18-19, 2020

Awards Ceremony and Reception: March 19, 2020

If you have questions regarding the competition, please contact **Laura Mulhern** at lmulhern@fedbar.org.

Sincerely,

Amy Boyle and Marshall Watson

Co-Directors, 2020 Thurgood Marshall Memorial Moot Court Competition
Board Members, Younger Lawyers Division