



## Oral Argument Scoring Rubric

### Seventh Annual Ellen A. (Nell) Hennessy Employee Benefits Moot Court Competition



Thank you for your participation in the oral argument component of the Seventh Annual Ellen A. (Nell) Hennessy Employee Benefits Moot Court Competition. During each round of the Competition, you will hear from 4 different competitors (2 per team). Please complete one of these scoring rubrics for each competitor. The bailiff will guide you through and answer any question you have regarding scoring criteria.

To stay on schedule, completing the scoring sheets for all four individuals should take a maximum of 10 minutes. Judges are encouraged to provide feedback to oralist. Feedback for all four oralists should take a maximum of 15 minutes. Once your scoring and feedback is complete, give your completed rubrics to the bailiff.

Teams have 30 minutes each to present their argument, which they must divide between two competitors. Each competitor must present for at least 10 minutes. The bailiff will keep track of time and announce whether each team complied with the time division requirements at the end of each round.

<b>Judge:</b>	<b>Team Number:</b>
<b>Round:</b>	<b>Competitor:</b>

	Oral Argument Scoring Categories	Possible Points	Points Awarded
1	<b>Substance of Legal Arguments</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issue recognition and understanding;</li> <li>• Use of relevant facts from the record;</li> <li>• Citation to and explanation of appropriate authority;</li> <li>• Citation to and explanation of policy considerations</li> </ul>	40	
2	<b>Organization of Presentation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structure and clarity of presentation;</li> <li>• Use of time;</li> <li>• Effective introduction and conclusion;</li> <li>• Awareness of strengths and weaknesses of case</li> </ul>	15	
3	<b>Responsiveness to Judges' Questions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsiveness to questions raised;</li> <li>• Thoroughness in responding to questions raised;</li> <li>• Ability to return to argument after questions</li> </ul>	15	

Oral Argument Scoring Categories		Possible Points	Points Awarded
4	<b>Responsiveness to Opponent</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anticipation of opponent's arguments;</li> <li>• Ability to respond to and counter opponent's arguments</li> </ul>	15	
5	<b>Advocacy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Composure and professional presentation;</li> <li>• Persuasiveness;</li> <li>• Ability to be heard and understood;</li> <li>• Deference to Court, compliance with courtroom etiquette</li> </ul>	15	
A	Total	100	

Oral Argument Scoring Penalties		Point Deductions	Deductions Made
1	Late arrival	1 pt per minute	
2	Time division violation	10	
3	Revealing law school	10	
B	Total		

Final Oral Argument Score Calculation		
A	Total Oral Argument Score	
B	Subtract Oral Argument Scoring Penalties	-
	Final Oral Argument Score	
Notes:		