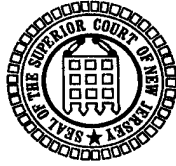


# SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY

## HUDSON VICINAGE

CHAMBERS OF  
**PETER F. BARISO, JR.**  
ASSIGNMENT JUDGE



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**For immediate release:**  
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### **Hudson Vicinage Announces Mock Trial Winners**

McNair Academic High School in Jersey City has won this year's Hudson County Vincent J. Apruzzese High School Mock Trial Competition. The winning team advances to the northern regional competition at the New Jersey Law Center in New Brunswick, where they will compete against winning teams from other counties.

Each year the teams are presented with a fictional civil or criminal case to argue in a trial court setting. The students are asked to employ all of the skills and knowledge that a lawyer would be called on to use in an actual trial. This year the students are arguing a civil case involving an inattentive school chaperone on a school trip, which resulted in an injury to a student.

The participating Hudson County schools in this year's competition were McNair Academic High School, Bayonne High School, Union City High School, Miftaahul Uloom Academy in Union City, Weehawken High School, and The Hudson School in Hoboken.

Participating mock trial judges from the bench included Assignment Judge Peter F. Bariso Jr., and Superior Court Judges Mark A. Baber, Maureen B. Mantineo, Marybeth Rogers, Martha T. Royster, Joseph A. Turula, Jeffrey R. Jablonski, Kimberly Espinales-Maloney, and Christine M. Vanek.

Participating mock trial judges from the bar included Maxine J. Kutner, Rahat A. Chatha, F.R. "Chip" Dunne III, Jonathan Koles, Gregory G. Diebold, Thomas J. Major, Angela C. Femino, Maria Gesualdi, Markis M. Abraham, and Stanley R. Pietruska.

The competitions were held at the historic William Brennan Courthouse in Jersey City. “Once again student participants were well prepared and presentations were excellent,” Assignment Judge Bariso said. “Judges were privileged to have a glimpse of future members of the bar.”

The county mock trial competitions are sponsored by the Hudson County Bar Association and the Hudson County Bar Foundation. The state competition is sponsored by the New Jersey State Bar Foundation.

Regional playoffs will be held on Feb. 25, semifinals on March 19, and statewide finals on March 25. The competitions will be held at the New Jersey Law Center in New Brunswick. The state winner will advance to compete in the national competition in Raleigh, North Carolina, in May.

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