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Two High School Teams Advance to Regional Finals in Atlantic/Cape May Vicinage 2018 Mock Trial Competitions

Mainland Regional High School in Atlantic County and Lower Cape May Regional High School in Cape May County advanced to the regional finals of the 2018 Vincent J. Apruzzese High School Mock Trial Competition after winning their preliminary rounds on Wednesday, Feb. 7.

Mainland Regional defeated Cedar Creek High School to win this year's Atlantic County mock trial competition. Lower Cape May Regional, competing in the finals against Cape May Technical High School, won the Cape May County mock trial competition.

Both winning teams advance to the regional competition on Tuesday, Feb. 27.

The mock trial program, which includes public and private local schools, was designed by the New Jersey State Bar Foundation to teach students about the law, court procedures and the legal system. In the preliminary mock trials, high school students competed against each other as they assumed the roles of defendants, attorneys, and witnesses.

This year's competition involves a fictional criminal case in which the defendant faces prison time for selling a deadly batch of fentanyl to her long-time friend. The mock trials are coordinated by local county bar representatives Eileen Oakes Muskett and Brett Yore.

Students from nine high schools in Atlantic County and five high schools in Cape May County participated in the local competitions.

Fifty-five volunteers, including Superior Court and Municipal Court judges and members of the bar associations in Atlantic and Cape May counties, acted as judges and coaches for this competition.