

SENTENCING ADVOCACY COMPETITION 2018

REQUEST FOR JUDGES (preliminary and semi-final rounds)

1. This is the second year the Ministry of Justice, Victoria University Law Students' Society and the New Zealand Bar Association will be hosting a sentencing advocacy competition for law students at the Wellington High Court.
2. We are seeking expressions of interest for criminal law practitioners to judge the preliminary and semi-final rounds of the competition on **Monday 13 August at 5:30 pm** and **Thursday 16 August at 5:30 pm** to be held at the **Wellington High Court**. We need 10 judges for these rounds.
3. Law students from Victoria University will be given a sentencing problem and the role of prosecution or defence by Friday 3 August. You will also be forwarded the problem on that day.
4. The competitors will put together written submissions and these are due Friday 10 August at 12 pm. You will be sent the submissions by 2 pm and each competitor will be sent the opposing submissions.
5. There will be a Victoria law student assisting as registrar on the day. Each competitor has 20 minutes to present their oral submissions. That will leave you with 20 minutes to deliberate and 10 minutes to inform the competitors of your sentencing decision.
6. You will be provided with a marking schedule to judge the candidates. Your sentencing decision need not be hand-written and can be informal. It would be helpful for the competitors to however see where a judge would end up in their final assessment. The competitors would also appreciate an overview of your feedback on their performances and ways to improve, particularly if moving forward to the semi-finals.
7. The top competitors, based on marks, proceed to the semi-finals on Thursday 16 August. In the semi-finals, competitors moot on the same question but swap roles. Assessment proceeds as it did in the preliminary round.
8. If you could inform us of your availability by **Thursday 12 July** that would be greatly appreciated. Please send this confirmation to Hiba Hussain at competitions.vuwlss@gmail.com.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact Hiba Hussain at competitions.vuwlss@gmail.com