

California Mock Trial Program

Observer Form

Each team (both prosecution <u>and</u> defense) is required to designate an <u>adult</u> to serve as the official Courtroom Observer/Chaperone. No one should enter the courtroom until the observers have entered and completed a survey of the room. The general rule is that nothing in the courtroom should be touched or moved by Mock Trial participants.

The observer's responsibilities include:

- Before teams enter the courtroom, make note of where chairs, easels, or other items are arranged. You can take photos of the courtroom, or you can use the diagram on the back of this form so you know how things were originally placed.
- After each trial, ensure that all furniture and courtroom items are replaced to their original positions and conditions.
- Watching for proper treatment of the courtroom by participants and spectators during the trial.

The observer's responsibilities DO NOT include watching for rule or procedural violations.

<u>Checklist</u>			
Courtroom # Round # Prosecution Code Defens	se Code	-	
Number of chairs in courtroom			
Are there documents (papers/notebooks) in the jury box? (If yes, the documents cannot be touched.)	☐ YES	□No	
Are there items (papers/notebooks) on the clerk's desk? (If yes, do not move or remove anything from the desk.)	☐ YES	□No	
Are the chalkboards/whiteboards blank? (Do not use <u>and</u> do not erase.)	☐ YES	□No	
Make sure:			
☐ All items (chairs, easels, etc.) that were moved were replaced to its original location.			
☐ All trash was picked up and removed from the courtroom.			
COMMENTS:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
I,, the Official Courtroom Observer for team # hereby certify that the (name of observer)			
above information is accurate and true.			
SIGNATURE DATE			

Turn in this completed form to the presider.



Courtroom Diagram

Jud	lge's Bench
Counsel Table	Counsel Table
Spectators	Spectators

Notes: