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McGeorge School of Law Seizes Victory in National Civil Trial Competition



From left Christine Spagnoli, Adriana Garcia Barba, Chelsea Givens, Allison Wieder, Simone Leighty & Bruce Broillet

LOS ANGELES (November 13, 2018)— Four student litigants from McGeorge School of Law out-litigated 17 other teams to win the 17th-annual National Civil Trial Competition, co-sponsored by Loyola Law School, Los Angeles and the Santa Monica law firm Greene Broillet & Wheeler, LLP. Stetson University College of Law was the runner-up in the prestigious competition, which began Friday Nov. 9 at the Santa Monica Courthouse and concluded with the final round on Sunday Nov. 11, 2018 at Loyola Law School.

The winning team members from McGeorge School of Law include Adriana Garcia Barba, Chelsea Givens, Simone Leighty and Allison Wieder. The team's coach is Thien Ho.

The competition involved 72 law student litigants representing their schools on teams of four. The subject of this year's civil case involves a college student who suffers from paranoid schizophrenia who, without provocation, violently attacked a classmate on campus. The students acted as advocates/witnesses to perform opening statements, conduct direct- and cross-examination of expert and lay witnesses, make closing arguments and argue objections based on the Federal Rules of Evidence. Each team argued their case in front of a panel of judges consisting of prestigious members of the Southern California bar.

"I was blown away by the students' high-level litigation skills and determination," said Mark Quigley, a partner at Greene Broillet & Wheeler, LLP and a member of the judges' panel. "We're honored to have played a role in this exciting and dynamic competition."

"Once again, this event and its participants have exceeded our expectations," said Professor Susan Poehls, Director of Trial Advocacy Programs at Loyola. "We're so grateful to have the support of our legal community and sponsors who make this a first-rate competition."

Greene Broillet & Wheeler, LLP is one of the country's top plaintiffs' injury law firms, specializing in wrongful death, catastrophic injury, legal malpractice and product defect cases.

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