BRIEF SCORES – INSTRUCTIONS FOR JUDGES

Judges should evaluate teams on the quality of advocacy only, and not on their view of the substantive merits of the issues presented. To promote uniformity in the judging criteria throughout the competition, we ask that judges use the following guidelines to evaluate each team’s brief:

1) Substance (60 points)

a. Statement of Facts (20 points)

• Is there a clear statement of the procedural history, which incorporates only the relevant events?

• Does the statement of facts present the factual history in a manner that advances the party’s position, without distorting or omitting adverse facts?

• Does the statement of facts adequately cite the record?

b. Analysis (30 points)

• Does the brief appropriately weave together the law and the facts?

• Does the brief emphasize its strongest arguments, and address each issue in a manner commensurate with its importance?

• Does the brief appropriately address unfavorable facts and points of law?

• Is the brief generally persuasive?

c. Research (10 points)

• Does the brief cite the leading cases?

• Does the brief cite appropriate cases to support the assertions of law it makes?

• Does the brief omit any important cases?

• Does the brief recognize the relative persuasiveness of the various types of authority?

2. Form (40 points)

a. Style (20 points)

• Is the brief easily understandable with a single reading?
• Is the writing concise and forceful (as opposed to clipped and overbearing, weak and flowery, or overly emotional)?

b. **Organization (10 points)**

• Are arguments organized for maximum persuasiveness?

• Does the brief offer a clear, logical structure?

c. **Format (10 points)**

• Does the brief comply with the competition rules?

• Does the brief follow correct Bluebook citation format?
BRIEF SCORE SHEET

1) Substance (60 points):
   a) Statement of Facts (20 points)
      Excellent  (18-20 points)
      Good      (15-17 points)
      Adequate  (12-14 points)
      Inadequate (9-11 points)

   b) Analysis (30 points)
      Excellent  (26-30 points)
      Good      (21-25 points)
      Adequate  (16-20 points)
      Inadequate (12-16 points)

   c) Research (10 points)
      Excellent  (9-10 points)
      Good      (7-8 points)
      Adequate  (5-6 points)
      Inadequate (3-4 points)

2) Form (40 points):
   a) Style (20 points)
      Excellent  (18-20 points)
      Good      (15-17 points)
      Adequate  (12-14 points)
      Inadequate (9-11 points)

   b) Organization (10 points)
      Excellent  (9-10 points)
      Good      (7-8 points)
      Adequate  (5-6 points)
      Inadequate (3-4 points)

   c) Format (10 points)
      Excellent  (9-10 points)
      Good      (7-8 points)
      Adequate  (5-6 points)
      Inadequate (3-4 points)

TOTAL SCORE: