I. **Organization of Competition**

The Whittier Law School National Juvenile Law Moot Court Competition (hereinafter “the Competition”) is an appellate competition sponsored by the Whittier Law School Moot Court Honors Board (hereinafter “the Board”) in conjunction with the Whittier Law School Center for Children's Rights. The Competition is administered by the Board and is governed by these Rules and by such other rules and procedures that may be adopted by the Board. These Rules shall be interpreted and executed by the Moot Court Executive Board.

II. **Use of Competition Materials for Other Purposes Prohibited**

The Transcript of Record, Rules, and other Competition materials are prepared and distributed by the Board exclusively for the purposes of this Competition. By entering into the Competition, each law school agrees that it will not make use of these materials or other Competition materials except in connection with its participation in this Competition. Any person or organization wishing to make any other use of the Transcript, Rules, or other Competition materials must first obtain written approval from the Moot Court Chief Justice and the Director for the Center for Children's Rights.

III. **Competition Rules**

A. **Teams**

1. **Number and Composition of Teams**

   Each law school properly entered into the Competition may enter no more than two (2) teams. Each team must consist of two (2) individuals, each of whom must be, at the time of the competition, in a full or part-time Juris Doctorate or equivalent program at the ABA law school they represent. No team member may currently hold a Juris Doctorate Degree.

   Each member of the team must participate in writing the team's brief and in oral arguments. All individuals on a “team” must be students at the same law school. No student may be a member of more than one team in
the Competition.

2. Faculty or Other Assistance is Prohibited

No team shall receive outside assistance of any kind from any faculty member or other person before filing its brief, including any assistance from, or sharing or comparison of research or work product with members of another team from the same school. All teams may use computer-aided research and word processing software (including automated cite-checking or spell-checking systems).

Except as provided below, each member of a team is prohibited from any discussion, either directly or indirectly, pertaining to the problem or any related issue with a person who is not a member of that particular team. Such persons include, but are not limited to, members of teams at different schools and team members of different teams at the same school.

However, schools which enter two teams in the competition may conduct practice oral argument sessions against each other after the filing of the brief.

The team's coach shall only assist in the preparation of the team's oral argument. The team's coach may be a student, faculty member, or an advisor. A school entering two teams may have the same coach.

3. Withdrawing from the Competition

Upon submission of a team's intent to compete in the National Juvenile Law Moot Court Competition, no team shall be entitled to a reimbursement or refund of the registration fee. A team that chooses to withdraw from the competition at any time shall be solely responsible for any expenses incurred, including, but not limited to, hotel and travel expenses.

There shall be no replacement of team members after service of briefs, unless the Board and the Director for the Center for Children's Rights expressly consent in writing.

If a team chooses to withdraw or replace team members, they must notify Jennifer Culhane, Executive Juvenile Law Justice, Whittier Law School Moot Court Honors Board via telephone at (714) 444-4141 ext. 420 or in writing at the school address listed in Rule III (B)(4)(c) below.

4. Disclosure of Teams' Law School Affiliation
At no time before, during or after oral arguments may any individual associated with any competing team (excluding competitors and coaches, bound by Rule III(C)(2)(a) below) disclose the name of their law school. In addition, any paraphernalia from any law school is strictly prohibited during the course of the Competition. Said paraphernalia includes, but is not limited to, clothing, letterhead, bags, notebook, and hats. This is to ensure absolute anonymity and equality throughout the Competition. Violation of this rule may result in disqualification at the sole discretion of the Board.

B. Briefs

1. Argument Side

For purposes of writing the brief, each team shall be randomly assigned to represent the Petitioner or Respondent. Both members of the team must participate in writing the team's brief. If a school enters two teams, the teams from such schools shall be assigned to represent opposite sides. No team may work with any other team in preparing the brief, including sharing research.

2. Restrictions

Plagiarism will not be tolerated and shall result in immediate disqualification. In addition, Competitors shall not, in any way, use appellate briefs submitted by parties in actual lawsuits to prepare the Competition brief or to prepare for oral arguments. Failure to comply with this rule shall be grounds for immediate disqualification.

3. Length and Format of Briefs

a. Form

Each brief shall comply with the format specified in Rule 24 of the United States Supreme Court Rules (West 2001), except as otherwise provided within these Rules. If any deviation from Rule 24 is specified in the materials provided by the Board, those deviations control over Rule 24.

All citations shall comply with the Darby Dickerson, Association of Legal Writing Directors, ALWD Citation Manual – A Professional System of Citation (Aspen Law and Business 2003). Each team shall use its randomly assigned team number on the lower right cover of the brief and on the signature page. To ensure anonymous grading, no team shall state the names of its team members or the school.
it represents anywhere on the brief.

b. **Appendices**
Appendices may be used to recite the text of statutes, Constitutional provisions, regulations, and materials that are not generally available.

c. **Typography**
Each brief shall be prepared with either a word processor or typewriter. The style and font (**Times New Roman 12 point**, see below) of each brief shall be uniform throughout the entire brief, including footnotes and covers. Each page shall be printed on one (1) side using only black ink.

d. **Type Size**
The type size (i.e. font) shall be **Times New Roman 12 point** and produce no more than sixteen (16) characters per inch. Sixteen (16) characters per inch will be measured by placing a ruler on any given page, marking one inch over the text and counting how many characters are located within that inch. If more than sixteen (16) characters are located within the inch, then **10 points** will be deducted from the overall brief score.

e. **Line Spacing**
All text shall conform to **twenty-eight (28) lines** per page. Long quotations which may be single-spaced according to the ALWD Citation Manual, and for the purposes of this rule, single spaced quotations shall be counted as every other line. If there are more than twenty-eight (28) lines per page, then **10 points** will be deducted from the team's overall brief score.

f. **Page Numbering**
Pages shall be numbered consecutively. In accordance with section (h) below, the Statement of Facts **shall** begin on page number 1.

g. **Page Size**
Each page shall be 8 ½ inches by 11 inches and shall have top, bottom, left and right margins of 1 inch, excluding page numbers. If the margins are less than 1 inch, then **10 points** will be deducted from the overall brief score.

h. **Length of Briefs**
Briefs shall not exceed twenty-five (25) pages in length, excluding the following:
- Title Page;
- Questions Presented;
- Topical Index or Table of Contents;
Any brief with more than twenty-five (25) pages shall be subject to a **10 point deduction** from the team's overall brief score.

### Type of Paper
Each brief **shall** be printed on standard or bond white paper.

### Covers
Each brief shall have front and back covers of cardstock.
Each brief submitted for Petitioner shall have **blue** front and back covers.
Each brief submitted for Respondent shall have **red** front and back covers.

### Submission of Briefs
Each team shall submit a typed or printed original brief and eight (8) additional copies of the original brief.

### Reproduction
Briefs may be reproduced by any method that produces a clear black image on white paper, except carbon copying.

### Binding
Each copy of the brief shall be velo-bound or spiral bound at the left margin. Any other types of binding **shall** be subject to a **3 point deduction** from the team's overall score of the brief for noncompliance.

### Certification and Service of Briefs

#### Certification
Each team **shall** prepare a separate one page statement certifying that its brief has been prepared in accordance with these Rules and is solely the work product of the competing team members. The **Original Certification shall only be submitted to Whittier Law School** (not to any competing schools) in accordance with Rule III (B)(4)(c) below. The Certification **shall not** be sent to the other competing schools because it will be the only document stating the team members' names and law school. By signing and submitting the Certification, each team member agrees to abide by all Competition Rules and be bound by the highest standard of moral, ethical, and academic integrity.

The Certification **shall** state:
i. “We hereby certify that we have adhered to the Whittier Law School National Juvenile Law Moot Court Competition Rules in every aspect, including but not limited to, independent research, writing and presentation of the argument and agree to comply and be bound by said Rules throughout the Competition. Furthermore, we agree that if the undersigned, either individually or collectively, violate any of the Competition Rules, the Whittier Law School Moot Court Honors Board may disqualify the team or take any other disciplinary action deemed appropriate at the sole discretion of the Moot Court Honors Board.”;

ii. Name of the Team's Law School;

iii. The side the team represents (Petitioner or Respondent);

iv. The names of each team member; and

v. Each team member's signature and date signed.

b. Service of Briefs on Competing Law Schools

All briefs shall be served on competing schools in accordance with these Rules. All briefs shall be sent via Certified United States Mail. Use of any other delivery service does not constitute compliance with these Rules and will result in a one (1) point deduction from the team's overall brief score.

c. Service of Briefs on Whittier Law School Moot Court Honors Board

Each team shall submit one (1) original brief, eight (8) copies of the brief and the Original Certification Statement in a single package POSTMARKED no later than January 7, 2005. The package shall be sent by OVERNIGHT United States Mail to:

Whittier Law School
Moot Court Honors Board - Juvenile Law Competition
3333 Harbor Boulevard
Costa Mesa, California  92626
ATTN: Susan Sams, Executive Juvenile Law Justice

d. Late Postmark

Any team whose package is postmarked later than January 7, 2005 shall be assessed a late penalty of 10 points for the first day and 5 points for each subsequent day which will be deducted from the team's overall brief score.

e. Loss of Package

Each team bears the risk of its package being lost, and is responsible for ensuring that its package timely arrives at Whittier Law School. If a team
can show that its package was received by Whittier Law School, the Board shall investigate the matter.

f. Service on Opposing Teams
Each team shall send one (1) copy of its brief to each of the other participating schools indicated on the forthcoming list of competitors at the addresses provided by the Board. Each brief shall be sent via Certified United States Mail and shall be postmarked no later than January 7, 2005. Any team whose brief is postmarked after January 7, 2005 to an opposing team shall be assessed a late submission penalty of 10 points for the first day and 5 points for each subsequent day which will be deducted from the overall brief score. (See (g) and (h) below for further details).

g. Teams Receiving Competitors Brief With a Late Postmark
Any team receiving a copy of a competitor's brief postmarked after January 7, 2005 may file a complaint against that school's team by contacting the Board in writing within one (1) week of receipt of the late brief. The complaint shall be mailed to the Board at the address listed in Rule III(B)(4)(c) and shall state the following:

i. Name, address, and phone number of the complaining school;
ii. Name and phone number of person to contact regarding the complaint;
iii. Date brief was received; and
iv. Original envelope in which the late brief was mailed.

h. Penalty
If the Moot Court Honors Board determines that a team has submitted a late brief to another team, the Board shall assess a penalty of 10 points for the first day and 5 points for each subsequent day which will be deducted from the noncomplying team's overall brief score.

5. Brief Scoring

Each brief shall be evaluated by a panel of judges selected by the Board. Each judge shall individually evaluate each brief according to the Brief Score Sheet enclosed herein. Each team shall receive a TEAM BRIEF SCORE equal to the average of the individual scores given by each judge.

a. High/Low Brief Scores Disregarded
Each team's highest brief score and lowest brief score shall be disregarded in the computation of the Team Brief Score.
b. Overall Team Brief Score

(1) The Team Brief Score shall count toward **FORTY PERCENT** of the Team Seeding Score when determining which eight teams shall advance to the Quarter Final Round; and

(2) The Team Brief Score shall count toward **TWENTY PERCENT** of the Team Seeding Score when determining which four (4) teams shall advance to the Semifinal Round.

C. Oral Argument

1. Structure

   a. Stages

      The Competition shall have four (4) stages of oral argument rounds consisting of:

      (1) Preliminary Rounds: There will be two (2) Preliminary Rounds and each team shall argue once as Petitioner and once as Respondent. The Board shall randomly select competing teams during the Preliminary Rounds. The eight (8) highest scoring teams from the Preliminary Round shall advance to the Quarter Final Round.

      (2) Quarter Final Round: There will be one (1) Quarter Final round and each team will argue once as either Petitioner or Respondent. The Board shall select teams to advance to the Quarter Final Round accordance with the seeding system expressly stated in Rule III (D)(4)(a)(1). The four (4) highest scoring teams from the Quarter Final Round shall advance to the Semifinal Round.

      (3) Semifinal Round: There shall be one (1) Semifinal round and each team will argue once as either Petitioner or Respondent. The Board shall select teams to advance to the Semifinal round in accordance with the seeding system expressly stated in Rule III (E)(3)(a)(1). The two (2) teams that score the highest from each courtroom from the Semifinal Round shall advance to the Final Round.

      (4) Final Round: The teams in the Final Round will argue only once as either Petitioner or Respondent. The team scoring the highest oral score in the Final Round shall be the overall winner of the
Competition.

2. Ranking and Seeding

The following principles shall be observed to the extent practicable, subject to the discretion of the Board:

1. No team shall represent the same side twice in the Preliminary Rounds.

2. No team shall argue against the same team twice in the Preliminary Rounds.

3. No team shall argue against the same team more than twice.

4. Teams from the same school:

   (1) Preliminary Rounds: No two teams from the same school shall be selected to compete against each other in the Preliminary Rounds.

   (2) Quarter Final, Semifinal and Final Rounds: The Board may, at its discretion, depart from strict seeding of the Quarter Final and Semifinal Rounds to ensure that two teams from the same school do not argue against each other. Otherwise, the Board shall strictly adhere to the seeding system expressly stated in Rule III (D)(4)(a)(1) and Rule III (E)(3)(a)(1) below.

2. Procedures

1. Team Designations

   For the purposes of oral argument, teams may refer to themselves by their names, but shall not state their school affiliation in any manner. Any team that identifies itself or its opponents by its school affiliation to anyone (especially judges or other competitors), before, during or after its presentation shall be disqualified.

2. Location

   Oral arguments shall be held at various locations as determined by the Board.

3. Forfeit
If a team does not appear for any oral argument round within fifteen (15) minutes of the scheduled starting time, the Board **may** declare that the team has forfeited that oral argument round. For that round each oralist shall receive an Individual Score of zero (0) and an Individual Oral Rank of four (4) by each judge. The team shall receive a Team Oral Score of zero (0) and a Team Oral Rank of eight (8) by each judge.

4. **Byes**

The Board may utilize byes if an odd number of schools are competing to administer the Competition in a timely manner.

3. **Scoring of Oral Arguments**

1. **Judges**

Each oral argument shall be heard by a judge or a panel of judges selected by the Board. The judges shall evaluate the oral arguments independently of the briefs and without knowledge of the brief scores.

2. **Oral Scoring Procedures**

(1) Each judge shall give each individual oralist:

   (1) An **oral score** (from 0 to 100, with 100 being the highest) according to the Oral Argument Score sheet. The scores shall be equal to the average of each judge's individual score, which will give each individual oralist an **Individual Oral Score**; and

   (2) An **oral rank** (from 1-4, with 1 being the highest). No ties in ranks shall be permitted except in case of forfeiture. The rank shall be equal to the sum of the oral ranks given by each judge to the individual oralist.

(2) Each team shall receive for the round:

   (1) A **Team Oral Score** equal to the average of the Individual Oral Scores given by the judges to that team's orals;

   (2) A **Team Oral Rank** equal to the sum of the Individual Oral Ranks given by the judges to that team's orals; and

   (3) A **Team Seeding Score** as calculated according to Rule III (D)(4)(a)(1) or Rule III (E)(3)(a)(1).
2. **Determination of Winners**

(1) In the **Preliminary Round**, the eight (8) teams, which advance **shall** be determined as follows:

(a) The teams with the highest Team Seeding Score shall be the winners.

(b) If the teams have equal Team Seeding Scores, the team with the higher Team Brief Score shall be the winner.

(c) If the teams have equal Team Brief Scores, the team with the higher Team Oral Rank shall be the winner.

(d) If the teams remain tied, after the above attempts to break the tie, the round shall be deemed a tie.

(2) In the **Quarter Final Rounds** the four (4) teams which advance **shall** be determined as follows:

(a) The teams with the highest Team Seeding Score shall be the winners of the **Quarter Final**.

(b) If the teams have equal Team Seeding Scores, the team with the higher Team Brief Score shall be the winner.

(c) If the teams remain tied, the team with the higher Team Oral Rank shall be the winner.

(d) If the teams remain tied, the teams shall reargue the case **from opposite sides**. If the teams have already argued against each other twice, a coin toss shall be used to give one team the right to elect which side it will argue. The reargument shall, if possible, be before the same panel of judges.

(3) In the **Semifinal and Final Rounds** the winner(s) **shall** be determined as follows:

(a) The two (2) winning teams of the Semifinal Round shall advance to the Final Round. The team with the highest Team Score at the completion of the Final Round **shall** be the Best Overall Competitors.
(b) If the teams have equal Team Oral Scores, the team with the higher Team Brief Score shall be the winner.

(c) If the teams remain tied, the team with the higher Team Oral Rank shall be the winner.

(d) If the teams remain tied, the teams shall reargue the case from opposite sides. If the teams have already argued against each other twice, a coin toss shall be used to give one team the right to elect which side it will argue. The reargument shall, if possible, be before the same panel of judges.

4. **Interpolation**

Teams judged by fewer judges than other teams, competing in the same round, may have their Team Oral Ranks interpolated as necessary to determine Team Ranking and Team Advancement.

5. **Time Limits**

In all rounds, each team shall be allotted a maximum time of thirty (30) minutes for oral argument. Each oralist is allotted a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes of oral argument for that oralist's issue. However, each individual oralist must advocate for at least ten (10) minutes of argument in each round. If the team is advocating on behalf of the Petitioner, the team may, by informing the judges at the beginning of the round, reserve from one (1) to five (5) minutes from the fifteen (15) total for rebuttal from either advocate's time. However, neither advocate shall argue less than ten (10) minutes, excluding any time saved for rebuttal. In addition, whichever member elects to reserve rebuttal time from their fifteen (15) minute allotment **MUST** argue the rebuttal.

6. **Bailiffs**

The team arguing the Petitioner's issues must inform the bailiff prior to the commencement of the round if they elect to reserve time at the end of the Respondent's oral argument for Petitioner's rebuttal time. The team must also inform the bailiff from which advocate's allotted time to deduct the rebuttal time, up to five (5) minutes. Bailiffs will periodically indicate how much time remains throughout the oral arguments and rebuttal.

7. **Questions**

Judges may interrupt oralists during presentation of their issue to ask
questions and may penalize oralists for speaking overtime.

8. Order of Argument

The order of argument in each round shall be as follows:

(1) Petitioner 1
(2) Petitioner 2
(3) Respondent 1
(4) Respondent 2
(5) Petitioner Rebuttal (if so desired and properly reserved)

1. Scouting

No person affiliated with any team or school still in competition will be allowed to watch or listen to any other competitor's oral argument, even if the team competing is affiliated with the person's school (i.e., if a school sends 2 teams, team 1 cannot watch team 2 if team 1 is still in competition). If any person violates this rule, all teams with which that person is affiliated shall be disqualified. The Board may impose additional restrictions as they deem appropriate.

j. Videotaping or Recording

No person affiliated with any team or school may videotape or audio record any portion of the oral arguments, regardless of whether their school’s team is presenting oral arguments.

k. Visitors

Each team may have a maximum of 2 additional persons, excluding the coach, advisor, and team members currently arguing, watch or listen to any oral argument, so long as, the opposing team does not object. If the other team does object, the additional person(s) shall not be allowed to watch or listen to the oral argument currently in session. HOWEVER, this rule shall not apply to Semifinal and Final Rounds. In both, the Semifinal and Final Round, visitors, including but not limited to, non-competing teams and their coach(es), friends and family members, may watch or listen to the oral arguments currently in session. However, if a school sends 2 teams to the Competition, and one team is still in Competition at the Semifinal Round, the other team shall only watch the argument in
which their school is competing in order to comply with subdivision (i) above.

D. Preliminary Rounds

1. Date

The Preliminary Rounds shall be held on Friday, February 4, 2005.

2. Participation

All teams properly entered to compete shall participate in the Preliminary Rounds.

3. Pairings for Preliminary Rounds

Each team shall be randomly selected to compete against another team (except where two teams from the same school are paired together). When two (2) teams from the same school are paired together, the Board will attempt to reassign the teams to prevent two (2) teams from the same school from competing against each other in the Preliminary Round.

4. Advancement

1. At the end of the Preliminary Rounds, each team shall be given a Team Seeding Score according to the following formula:

   \[ \text{Team Seeding Score} = 0.40 \times \text{Team Brief Score} + 0.60 \times \frac{\text{Team Oral Score as Petitioner} + \text{Team Oral Score as Respondent}}{2} \]

2. The eight (8) highest scoring teams at the end of the Preliminary Round shall advance to the Quarter Final Round.

5. Quarter Final Round

1. Date

The Quarter Final Round shall be held on Saturday, February 5, 2005.

2. Structure

The eight (8) highest scoring teams at the end of the Preliminary Rounds shall advance to the Quarter Final Rounds. The highest scoring teams shall be paired against the lowest scoring teams (i.e. bracketed): number 1 will be paired against
number 8, and so on.

3. **Advancement**
   
a. At the end of the Quarter Final Round, each team **shall** be given a Team Seeding Score according to the following formula:

   \[
   \text{Team Seeding Score} = 0.20 \times \text{[Team Brief Score]} + 0.80 \times \text{[Team Oral Score as either Petitioner or Respondent]}
   \]

b. The four (4) highest scoring teams at the end of the Quarter Final Round shall advance to the Semifinal Round.

**F. Semifinal Round**

1. **Date**

   The Semifinal Round shall be held on **Saturday, February 5, 2005**.

2. **Structure**

   The four (4) highest scoring teams from the Quarter Final Rounds shall advance to the Semifinal Round, which consists of one round. The Semifinal Round shall be conducted on a single elimination basis. The winners of each courtroom of the Semifinal Round shall advance to the Final Round. The highest scoring teams from the Quarter Final Round shall be paired against the lowest scoring teams (i.e. bracketed): number 1 will be paired against number 4, and 3 will be paired against number 2.

3. **Advancement**

   The two (2) highest scoring teams from each courtroom (scores are based solely on the Team Oral Scores) at the end of the Semifinal Round shall advance to the Final Round.

**G. Final Round**

1. **Date**

   The Final Round shall be held on **Saturday, February 5, 2005**.

2. **Structure**

   The two (2) highest scoring teams from each courtroom from the Semifinal Round shall advance to the Final Round, which consists of one round. The Final Round shall be conducted on a single elimination basis. The highest scoring team
H. Awards

At the conclusion of the Competition, the following awards shall be presented at the Awards Banquet on Saturday, February 5, 2005:

1. Brief Awards

   1. Awards for excellence in written advocacy shall be given for the top three (3) briefs in the Competition, as determined by the Team Brief Scores. The following awards shall be given:

      (1) Best Brief, to the team with the highest Team Brief Score;

      (2) Second Place Brief, to the team with the second highest Team Brief score; and

      (3) Distinguished Brief, to the team with the third highest Team Brief Score.

2. Ties

   If two teams are tied for an award, the tie may be broken by the following procedure:

      (1) Each team's highest and lowest remaining brief scores from the individual brief judges will be discarded;

      (2) Each team shall receive an Adjusted Team Brief Score equal to the sum of its remaining brief scores; and

      (3) The team with the higher Adjusted Team Brief Score shall receive the award.

2. Oral Advocacy Awards

   1. Awards for excellence in oral advocacy shall be given to the top three (3) individual oral advocates in the Competition, based on the Preliminary Rounds and Quarter Final Round. To qualify for an oral advocacy award, a competitor must have argued at least a total of three (3) times. The following awards shall be given:

      (1) Best Oral Advocate, to the individual with the highest Individual
Oral Score;

(2) Second Place Oral Advocate, to the individual with the second highest Individual Oral Score; and

(3) Distinguished Oral Advocate, to the individual with the third highest Individual Oral Score.

2. The awards shall be determined as follows:

(1) Each individual oral advocate shall be ranked according to their average Individual Oral Scores from the Preliminary Rounds and the Quarter Final Round.

(2) If two (2) individual oral advocates have the same average Individual Oral Score, the oralist with the higher average Individual Oral Rank shall receive the award.

(3) If the oral advocates remain tied, and if the oralists argued against each other in one of the Preliminary Rounds or the Quarter Final Round, the oralist with the better Individual Oral Rank for that round shall receive the award.

(4) If the oral advocates remain tied, the tie may be broken in a manner determined by the Board.

3. Team Awards

The following awards shall be given for overall excellence in appellate advocacy:

1. Best Overall Competitors, awarded to the winning team members of the Final Round; and

2. Second Place Overall Competitors, awarded to the runner-up of the Final Round.

1. Penalties, Complaints and Appeals

1. Penalties

The Board has the sole discretion to interpret and apply Competition Rules when determining whether a penalty should be applied, or if a team should be disqualified for failure to abide by any of the Rules of the Competition.

2. Complaints
Any complaint regarding the Competition shall be made within two (2) weeks of the incident and shall be made in writing directly to the Board, or a body designated by the Board.

3. **Appeals**

The Board may grant appeals at its discretion. Appeals are not a matter of right. Such appeals shall be resolved by the Board or a body designated by the Board. Appeals shall be brought within two (2) weeks of the incident or decision the team or individual wishes to appeal and shall be made in writing.

10. **Interpretations and Clarifications**

All requests for interpretation of these rules or clarification of the Competition problem shall be handled by U.S. Mail or electronic mail. Requests for interpretation or clarification shall be sent by U.S. Mail to:

Whittier Law School  
Moot Court Honors Board - Juvenile Law Competition  
3333 Harbor Boulevard  
Costa Mesa, California 92626  
ATTN: Susan Sams, Executive Juvenile Law Justice

Or should be e-mailed to:

mootcourt@law.whittier.edu

If you have not submitted an e-mail address, please e-mail the above address to be added to the Juvenile Law Competition e-mailing list. Teams may have up to three (3) addresses (one for each team member and the coach) on the list.

Each request shall clearly state the issue on which clarification or interpretation of the Rules is requested. All requests for clarifications of the problem or interpretation of the rules relating to the brief shall be postmarked no later than December 1, 2004 if by U.S. mail and requests by e-mail shall be received no later than December 5, 2004. No questions shall be answered over the phone.

The Board has the sole discretion to issue any interpretations or clarifications. Interpretations or clarifications shall be issued only in writing and shall be sent simultaneously to all teams entered in the Competition. In the event that all schools submit an e-mail address, the Board shall have discretion to issue responses via e-mail.

All interpretations of these Rules and any waivers, consents, penalty assessments, decisions, or other actions taken by the Board in its administration of the Competition, are at the sole and absolute discretion of the Board. Such interpretations, waivers, consents, penalty assessments, decisions or actions shall be final, and all participants in
the Competition shall be bound therein. In all cases, the Board shall be the ultimate authority regarding the application and interpretation of these Rules and administration of the Competition.