

Court Information Release



United States District Court
Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division
219 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60604

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District Court hosts Chicago Public Schools sophomores participating in mock trial competition

CHICAGO, Ill. - On Friday, February 16, 2017, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois hosted sophomore students from six Chicago Public Schools (CPS) high schools with Pre-law programs, who competed in an annual Sophomore Mock Trial Competition. After months of study and preparation, students were provided a set of case facts and then in district court courtrooms put on a mock trial before federal judges and attorneys, who acted as judges and provided feedback and suggestions.

After the conclusion of the mock trials, Chief Judge Rubén Castillo addressed the student participants in the James Benton Parsons Ceremonial Courtroom at the Dirksen U.S. Courthouse. Chief Judge Rubén Castillo, District Judge Sara L. Ellis, and Magistrate Judge Daniel G. Martin all served as judges of the competition.

Participating high schools included Farragut Career Academy, Hancock High School, Jones College Preparatory, Mather High School, Raby High School, and Wells Community Academy.

CPS high schools with Career and Technical Education (CTE) offerings provide college-prep education as well as technical skills. Pre-law is one of twelve CTE tracks and seeks to introduce students to various careers in the fields of law and law enforcement through hands-on, experiential programs and activities.

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