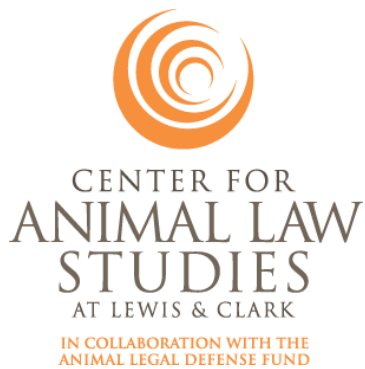




PRESENTED BY:



HOSTED BY:



LEGISLATIVE DRAFTING  
&  
LOBBYING COMPETITION

2012 RULES

## **RULE I. ORGANIZATION**

The National Animal Law Competitions (NALC) are an inter-law school competition comprised of three separate events:

- Legislative Drafting & Lobbying Competition;
- Closing Argument Competition; and
- Appellate Moot Court Competition.

NALC is a fun and educational event presented by the Center for Animal Law Studies each year and hosted by the UCLA School of Law in 2012. The purpose of the event is to provide law students an opportunity to develop knowledge in the field of animal law and hone their written and oral advocacy skills.

## **RULE II. PARTICIPATION**

### **A. Competitor Eligibility.**

Participation in the Legislative Drafting & Lobbying Competition is on an individual basis. The competition will be open to the first twenty (20) students to register and arrange payment. Should the competition sell out, potential competitors are encouraged to register for the waitlist as a spot may become available.

Each law school may enter up to two competitors. Participants must be full- or part-time students seeking a J.D. at any ABA-approved law school in the United States.

### **B. Substitution.**

In the event of an emergency, schools may send an alternate competitor. The law school or individual competitor must immediately notify the competition administrators of the change.

### **C. Registration.**

Registration for the 2012 competitions will open on Wednesday, October 5, 2011, at 1 p.m. (PST). Registrations will not be accepted before then. Registrations are processed on a first-come, first-served basis via the online registration process. The online process will shut down automatically when the event is at capacity. To be added to the waitlist, email Competition Administrator Laura Handzel at [lhandzel@lclark.edu](mailto:lhandzel@lclark.edu). The waitlist order will be determined by the time and date stamp of the email request.

Competitors must submit a completed registration form and arrange payment for the registration fee of \$225 (per individual competitor). Registrations may be completed by the individual competitor or by an agent acting on their behalf.

Should a competitor need to withdraw from the competition, a full refund minus a \$15.00 administrative fee is available until December 1, 2011. There will be no refunds after that date.

Because many law schools hold in-school competitions to select their representatives, specific competitor information is preferred but not necessary at the time of registration. All other fields on the registration form, however, must be complete and payment must be arranged. If not, the registration will not be valid. Specific competitor information must be supplied no later than November 15, 2011, or the spot is forfeited to a waitlisted team.

### **RULE III. COACHING**

#### **A. Timing.**

**Do not risk disqualification! Competitors are not allowed to receive any help on the problem before their bill and fact sheet is submitted (both are due on Wednesday, February 1, 2012, by 5 p.m. (PST)). Prior to the deadline, competitors may not discuss the problem with anyone, including professors, coaches, students, colleagues, or any other individual.**

Only after the bill and fact sheets have been submitted and pursuant to the restrictions outlined below, may competitors receive assistance from coaches in preparation for the oral rounds.

#### **B. Restrictions.**

Competitors may not receive any coaching, advice, or assistance from individuals who:

1. Are involved with the writing of the 2012 Legislative Drafting & Lobbying Competition problem; or
2. Are serving as a judge for the 2012 Legislative Drafting & Lobbying Competition.

The burden of determining coaching eligibility rests on the competitor. Therefore, competitors should first inquire whether a would-be coach was involved in authoring the problem or if they will be a judge for the 2012 Legislative Drafting & Lobbying Competition.

#### **C. During the Competition.**

Every effort is made to make NALC as fair as possible. Consequently, coaches and guests may not observe preliminary rounds, including those of their own competitors. This policy is in place to avoid any possibility of judges being influenced (for better or worse) by coaches and/or guests present in the room(s). Coaches may assist competitors before and after each round. The final competition round will be open to the public. The competition administrators will strive to make arrangements to record rounds, allowing coaches, family members, etc. to review the video with the competitors after the event is over.

#### **D. Communication with Judges.**

During the competition, competitors and coaches may not discuss the rules, problem, cases, strategy, or scoring, and may not receive any advice, feedback, or coaching from the NALC judges beyond feedback provided immediately after each round.

### **RULE IV. COMPETITION PROBLEM**

#### **A. Distribution and Components.**

The problem consists of one (1) mock bill scenario and three (3) different mock lobbying scenarios for the bill. The lobbying scenarios include legislator profiles. During competition rounds, competitors will approach “members of Congress” and the like to request their sponsorship, co-sponsorship, votes, etc. Competitors will lobby for the same mock bill in all rounds. There are three (3) preliminary rounds during which competitors will face all three (3) of the mock scenarios - one (1) scenario per round. Competitors will also write and submit a proposed bill and accompanying fact sheet.

The problem is posted on the NALC website, under “Problems.” Please visit:  
[www.NationalAnimalLawCompetitions.org](http://www.NationalAnimalLawCompetitions.org)

#### **B. Bill and Fact Sheet.**

**The written competition components are a crucial aspect of the Legislative Drafting & Lobbying Competition. They constitute twenty-five percent (25%) of the competitor’s total preliminary round score and also serves as the determining factor in the event of a tie. Therefore, competitors should strive to turn in the very best product possible. Note that a special award is given to the overall Best Bill and Fact Sheet.**

##### **1. Requirements.**

The length of the bill is discretionary, but one to five pages (1-5 pages) is appropriate. Inclusion of “findings” at the beginning of the bill is discretionary. Findings are included to be persuasive, but are sometimes attacked by legislators and opponents of a bill. The fact sheet must be no more than one-page (1-page) in length.

##### **2. Service Upon the Competition Administrator.**

Competitors must submit their written proposed bill and fact sheet in two individual PDF files by 5 p.m. (PST) on Wednesday, February 1, 2012. Send files as email attachments to Laura Handzel at [lhandzel@lclark.edu](mailto:lhandzel@lclark.edu).

Competitors should consult the example fact sheets and HSUS’ Citizen Lobbyist Resources available on the problem webpage for guidance.

### **C. Questions and Competition Administrators.**

Contact Laura Handzel at lhandzel@lclark.edu with questions. Be sure to read both the problem and the rules in their entirety before requesting clarification. Also be sure to refer back to the rules from time to time prior to the competition. Ms. Handzel will not respond to questions that are answered in the rules and, if needed, can only provide minimal clarification on the problem. *See also* Rule IX.

Please note, Ms. Handzel works closely with fellow Competition Administrator Liberty Mulkani. Competitors will be receiving communications from both prior to and during the event.

## **RULE V. ROUNDS AND SCORING**

### **A. Bill and Fact Sheet.**

The proposed bill will be scored by a committee of experienced lobbyists and/or legislators before the competition.

### **B. Preliminary Rounds.**

The schedule for the preliminary rounds will be posted on the NALC website prior to the competition. Each student will participate in three (3) preliminary rounds, attempting to persuade a “member of Congress” based on the three (3) legislator profiles.

### **C. Timekeeping.**

Competitors will have ten (10) minutes to present in each round. A timekeeper will display a green card until only three (3) minutes of the participant's allotted time remain. At the three-minute (3-minute) mark, a notice will be given (a card displaying the number three (3) will be displayed). When one (1) minute remains, a yellow card will be displayed. When the competitor's time has expired, a red card will be displayed, signaling that the competitor must conclude promptly.

### **D. Advancement to Final Round.**

At the conclusion of the three (3) preliminary rounds, a total score for each competitor will be calculated. The total score will be calculated as follows:

- 25% - based on the competitor's proposed bill & fact sheet; and
- 75% - based on the competitor's combined oral scores from each of the three (3) preliminary rounds (25% per round).

The four (4) competitors with the top total scores will advance to the final round.

#### **E. Final Round Details.**

Background information on the “legislator” for the final round will be provided before the final round but after the preliminary rounds of the competition.

#### **F. Final Round Competitor Order.**

The four finalists will be randomly assigned a presentation order for the final round.

#### **G. Round Closed to Finalists.**

The competitors in the final round will not be permitted to view the lobbying presentations of their fellow finalist competitors.

#### **H. Determining Placing.**

Upon completion of the final round, the competition winner will be determined by considering the total score given to each participant. In the event of a tie, the competitors’ bill and fact sheet scores will determine the outcome.

### **RULE VI. RESULTS**

Teams will receive oral feedback at the end of each round. Finalists will be announced at the Saturday evening event. Winners of the competition will be announced during the awards ceremony, following the final round on Sunday. Competitors’ names and photos (unless otherwise instructed) may be posted on the NALC website.

### **RULE VII. AWARDS**

Awards will be given to the top four (4) finalists as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> Place, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Finalists. An award will also be given for the Best Bill & Fact Sheet. The winner of the Best Bill & Fact Sheet Award may not necessarily also be a competition finalist.

### **RULE VIII. PENALTIES**

Penalties, including disqualification, may be assessed for failure to comply with the rules or deadlines set pursuant to these rules.

### **RULE IX. INTERPRETATION OF THE RULES**

Requests for interpretation of these rules should be made at the earliest date possible. Competitors will receive prompt notification of any new rules, as well as revisions to or interpretations of existing rules. All competitors shall be bound by any changes, effective at the time of notification.

---

The Center for Animal Law Studies at Lewis & Clark, in collaboration with the Animal Legal Defense Fund, wishes you a fun and productive 2012 Legislative Drafting & Lobbying Competition. Best of luck to all competitors!

