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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

USD's National Moot Court Team Takes Top Honors

The National Moot Court Team from the University of San Diego School of Law took first place, best brief for the respondent, and best brief for the entire competition in the Far Western Regionals of the 32nd Annual National Moot Court Competition held November 6 and 7.

Participating in the competition were law schools from the Far Western region, which includes California, Nevada, and Hawaii. To reach the finals, USD's oral advocacy squad, comprised of Debra Dodds and Ian Kessler, defeated the Moot Court teams of Pepperdine, Loyola (Los Angeles), UCLA, and Whittier. The final round matched USD against the University of California, Davis.

The competition involved two days of appellate argument before distinguished panels of judges which included Justice Kaus of the California Supreme Court and Eville Younger, past Attorney General of the State of California, as well as justices from the California Court of Appeal, the Second Appellate District, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit.

The USD team's record represented, according to Gary Schons of the Attorney General's Special Prosecutions Unit and

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advisor for the Team, the first time a USD team has won first place and both best brief awards.

This year's competition was centered on the right to publicity and the weight of prior state decisions pursuant to the Erie mandate.

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