

# MOCK TRIAL COMING SOON...

## PRE-LAW SOCIETY AT VCU

Breaking News!  
The Pre-Law  
Society at VCU is  
bringing a  
competitive  
Mock Trial team  
to our school.

### Meet the Team

#### Committee Director

*Emily Downs*

Special Power: Leading the team to competitions and, hopefully, to victory!

#### Vice Committee Director

*Ian Shaw*

Special Power:  
Coordinating scrimmages to help us practice for competition!

#### Administrative Chair

*Anish Patel*

Special Power: Handles schedules, keeps minutes of all meetings, and keeps track of all tasks!

#### Fundraising Chair

*Briana Riddick*

Special Power: Raising funds to ensure that we're financially equipped for competition and anything else that comes our way!

### How It Started:

The Pre-Law Society took applications and hosted interviews to bring together a committee of individuals specially equipped to bring this opportunity to us.

### How It's Going:

They've worked behind the scenes with the Pre-Law Society's executive board for months to get this operation up and running, and now they're finally ready to come forward.

### The Job:

- Establish a long lasting organizational structure
- Build a strong relationship with both a coach and an AMTA mentor
- Get a team of at least 12 people going at VCU
- Hold weekly practices and attend scrimmages
- Compete at Regionals with at least one complete Mock Trial Team
- See how far we can go!



### Meet the AMTA

The name of the game is Mock Trial, “a competition that involves students performing as both attorneys and witnesses in a simulated trial based on a fictional fact pattern and law provided by the competition’s governing body”. The governing body - the American Mock Trial Association (AMTA), regulates these trials and allows students to compete for points assigned by judges. Get the most points, win the round. Win the most rounds, win the competition.

[View the AMTA  
Handbook  
Here.](#)

## ***Preparation:***

- During the Fall semester: starting after SOVO fair, we will meet once a week for about an hour on a set day/time (TBA) -- these meetings may be replaced with scrimmages against a local university
- During the Spring semester: Regionals begin in February - as such, starting as soon as the semester does, we will meet twice a week in the Spring semester for about an hour on a set day/time (TBA), once again with the option to scrimmage
- If we proceed to the Opening Round Championship and the National Championship Tournament, this schedule may keep up through April -- otherwise we will return to meeting once a week as early as March!
- We will never meet during finals week

## ***How You Can Help:***

- Get involved, and stay involved! Follow us on Instagram (@prelawsocietyatvcu) to stay up to date on Mock Trial news and click the LinkTree to connect with us on RamsConnect, GroupMe, LinkedIn, and Facebook!  
linktr.ee/vcuprelawsociety
- Bring your friends! We'll be hosting an interest meeting and starting practices in the fall, come out and bring a friend with you! You'd be surprised at how many pre-law students we have here at VCU (and how many people just like arguing!)
- Show up! You're why we're here!



***Interested In  
Doing More?  
Check Out Our  
Officer Position  
Applications Here.***

## ***What You Need To know:***

- Every year, the AMTA releases a case to be used for competition that season
- Undergraduate students compete as members of 6-10 person teams as representatives of their college/university
- During competitions, students present the case 4 times -- twice as the Prosecution/Plaintiff, and twice as the Defense
- Teams are scored based on their performances, and winners move on to the next round of competition (the Opening Round Championships and the National Championship)
- During COVID-19, the competitions took place online. Next year is unknown, although it is likely that the online competitions will continue through the 2021-2022 season

*The Pre-Law Society at Virginia Commonwealth University is a non-partisan organization but provides a platform for members to express personal opinions and experiences. All information posted is strictly for educational and informational purposes. The Society does not endorse these views.*

***Emily Downs  
6/1/2021***