

THE WILLIAMS INSTITUTE MOOT COURT COMPETITION
WRITTEN BRIEF SCORING SHEET

TEAM # _____

1. Table of Contents, Introduction, and Questions Presented

- Are the issues framed concisely and intelligibly? **(of 5) x 2**
- Do the headings advance the argument?
- Does the brief use the “Questions Presented” as an advocacy opportunity? If so, does it strike the right balance between advocacy and accuracy?
- Does the introduction summarize the argument persuasively?

2. Statement of the Case

- Does it avoid distorting or misusing the facts? **(of 5) x 1**
- Does it include only relevant material?
- Does it foreshadow the legal arguments?

3. Legal Argument

- Does the brief use relevant decisions? **(of 5) x 5**
- Does it strike a balance between application of legal principles and factual comparisons?
- Does it effectively anticipate major counter-arguments?
- Are its argumentation and organization lucid and logical?
- Is it persuasive?

4. Style and Professionalism

- Does the brief use proper grammar, spelling, and punctuation? **(of 5) x 2**
- Is it well written (e.g., word choice, sentence structure, ease of reading)?
- Is it respectful?
- Does it correctly cite the decisions and the record according to the Bluebook?
- Is it neat and technically precise?

TOTAL SCORE _____
(of 50)

SUGGESTED SCORING GUIDELINES

<u>SCORE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
5	Exceptional; unique, extremely persuasive and outstanding use of authority; extraordinarily advanced writing skills.
4	Good; particularly solid brief; effective ideas
3	Competent; adequate presentation and representation of client's position; no significant flaws in the argument.
2	Fair; lacks polish; needs improvement; misunderstood some issues or failed to present the client's position satisfactorily.
1	Poor; must improve technical skills; needs help in persuasive writing.