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INDIANA BAR FOUNDATION

Educating Tomorrow's Leaders | Expanding Civil Justice | Supporting the Profession

In This Issue

[We the People](#)[Mock Trial](#)[Civic Education Task Force](#)[Indiana Free Legal Answers](#)[Keystone Society](#)

Quick Links

[Homepage](#)[Donate](#)[Volunteer](#)

We the People Nationals Preparation

Two Indianapolis law firms will host practice rounds for Indiana's teams as they prepare for the We the People National Finals. Those interested in helping the students can see dates, locations, and who to contact below.

Cathedral High School at Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP on Wednesday, April 8. Contact [Michelle Cline](#).

Hamilton Southeastern High School at Barnes & Thornburg LLP on Friday, April 17. Contact [Alex Orlowski](#).

High School Mock Trial State Finals



More than [200 students from twenty-four teams](#) will compete at the Indiana High School Mock Trial State Finals March 7-8 in Indianapolis. We are still seeking presiding and scoring judges with the greatest need in rounds 3 and 4. To volunteer, please [register online](#).

The winner of the state finals will move on to the National High School Mock Trial Championship, which the Foundation will host in Evansville, Indiana May 7-9. To be apart of this national event, [register here](#).

Civic Education Task Force Announced

The Foundation created a civic education task force to study methods of instruction, programs and educational outcomes to improve civic education opportunities throughout the state. The newly formed task force will be chaired by Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch and will prepare specific, actionable recommendations based on research and ideas from around the country and the state. The desire of the task force is to "move the needle" on Indiana's overall civic health.

The creation of this task force comes as a recommendation from the [2019 Indiana Civic Health Index](#). See the full list of members [here](#).

Hoosier Lawyers Stepping Up to Do Pro Bono

In 2019, Indiana's Free Legal Answers "Virtual Law Clinic" had its best year yet! Under the new management of Pro Bono Indiana, the Free Legal Answers website continues to offer brief legal advice to qualifying users who post their civil legal question to the

website at indiana.freelegalanswers.org.

Indiana Free Legal Answers offers attorneys screened questions on a variety of civil legal matters and the option to review topics before choosing to answer. This online volunteer opportunity allows lawyers to do brief pro bono work in the comfort and convenience of their own office, home, and schedule. The most frequent questions posed involve family, housing, consumer, and re-entry issues.

In 2019, the project responded to 61% of questions asked, an improvement in response rate by over 20% from the prior year.

Monthly Donations Grow the Mission

"If you would have told me three years ago when I joined Mock Trial that I would win a best attorney award at state, I probably would have laughed. This program has provided me with so much confidence and so many amazing memories." - Caitlyn, High School Mock Trial Student

Donating [\\$100 monthly](#) helps emerging needs. Your monthly donation of any amount is appreciated, but \$100 a month recognizes you in the Keystone Society. For more information, contact Kim Berry at 317-269-7864 or kberry@inbf.org.

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