

A SIMPLIFIED MOCK APPELLATE ARGUMENT
APPELLANT / APPELLEE

[Introduction]

Madam Chief Justice and may it please the Court.

My name is _____, and I represent the Appellant/Appellee, _____, in this matter.

Today, **I will argue** _____.

****Only if appellant:*** *At this time, appellant requests to reserve one minute for rebuttal.*

[Roadmap]

Your Honors, the decision of the _____ Court, holding that _____, should be **AFFIRMED/REVERSED** for two reasons:

First, _____.

Second, _____.

[Body of Argument]

1. **As to my first point:** [Restate point]

Argument structure: (CRAE)

- Conclusion = your “point”
- Rule = Standard
- Application = apply the rule to the facts in this case.
 - o **Counterarguments (try to address them early on, b4 questions)**
 - o **Policy arguments**
- Explanation = other cases that have dealt with this issue.
- Conclusion = You do not need to restate conclusion. In fact, I wouldn't (it would just waste time).

2. **As to my second point:** [Restate point]

- [Repeat above].

[Long Conclusion]

Your Honors, this Court should **AFFIRM/REVERSE** the decision of the _____ Court because _____. [Give brief overview of your argument. Should be no longer than 1 paragraph. You will likely not have time to say this but it's good to have just in case you have more time at the end.]

[Short Conclusion]

For these reasons, this Court should **AFFIRM/REVERSE** the decision of the _____ Court. [This is the conclusion you will definitely say. If you run out of time before you say this, say “*Your Honors, I see that my time has run. May I briefly conclude?*”] *IMPORTANT: Do NOT finish your argument without saying this short conclusion.

Thank you.

[Rebuttal] (*Only for appellant*)

Your Honors, just one brief point addressing Appellee's argument.

Appellee has stated/argued/cited _____

However, _____

Therefore, the decision of the _____ Court should be AFFIRMED/REVERSED. Thank you.