

# **Virtual Supreme Court Preliminary Round Grading Rubric**

## **Written Component (80 total points)**

Each of the ten answers will be graded on a scale of 1-8.

- I. Style (1 Point)** - Avoids typos, spelling mistakes, and grammatical errors
- II. Citations (2 Points)** - Cites at least two primary sources
- III. Argument (5 Points)** - Correctly states issues, explains why primary source supports a position, objectively articulates both sides of the issue

## **Oral Component (20 total points)**

- I. Appearance (5 points)**
  - A. Both advocates wear courtroom attire
  - B. Students sitting behind desk, or standing behind podium or lectern
  - C. Neutral background
- II. Timing (5 points)**
  - A. Presentation lasts at least 10 minutes
  - B. Teammates roughly split time in half
  - C. Roughly equal time is given to each questions
- III. Delivery (10 points)**
  - A. Maintains eye contact
  - B. Avoids reading off of prepared remarks as much as possible. This prohibition includes reading off a screen (when eyes shift around, it is obvious you are reading from a tablet or other device).
  - C. Uses notes effectively (i.e., to accurately quote important principles/doctrine from cases and/or historical materials)
  - D. Uses proper grammar and pronunciation