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***Prosecutors Lead Mock Trial Teams  
to National Competition Finals***



Washington (far right) with team



Hill (far left) with team

District Attorney Jan Scully commends Deputy District Attorneys Leland Washington and Keith Hill for going above-and-beyond their job responsibilities by serving as coaches for the [University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law Mock Trial Teams](#) and accomplishing what the school describes as their “most successful weekend in its long, storied competition history.”

The Mock Trial Team Program prepares law school students to be successful trial lawyers. Students are trained in the art of persuasive advocacy, how to effectively apply the Federal Rules of Evidence to win pretrial motions and how to make appropriate objections in the courtroom. Each year, students compete in regional and national trial competitions where they act as trial counsel through all phases of litigation in both civil and criminal cases.

For the first time ever, Leland’s team made their way to the champion round at the largest national competition held in the New York area. With 36 competing teams, they had an undefeated record of 7 and 0 before taking second place by a 4 to 3 vote. At the same time on the opposite coast, Keith’s team was breaking records of their own at national competitions held in Southern California. Out of the 16 competing teams, they tied for first place and ultimately took second place. Members of both teams also received several individual awards.

Leland has been a coach for 12 years and Keith for 4 years. They invest up to 15 hours a week for 6 to 10 weeks in competition training, which is done outside of work hours, and travel to competition locations for 3 to 4 days at a time. [In addition to Leland and Keith, Deputy District Attorneys Maria Wilson, Thien Ho, Scott Schweibish and Jesse Saucedo also serve as coaches.](#)