

# The Rebuttal



## What Is Moot Court?

Moot Court is the best of both worlds—a combination of persuasive written and oral advocacy! Similar to what attorneys actually do at the federal and state appellate courts, teams of two to three students write an appellate brief and prepare to present oral arguments in front of panels of judges, attorneys, and professors, at competitions, around the nation.

Stetson students get a glimpse of what life is like as Moot Court Board members in their Research and Writing II classes.

## Why did I want to join the Moot Court Board?

### From our 2016–2017 Moot Court Justices:

- ◆ **Kasey Feltner, Chief Justice:** Stetson’s Moot Court Board encompasses the greatest and brightest minds that Stetson University College of Law has to offer. Its members are great writers, oral advocates, competitors, and legal scholars.
- ◆ **Anna Kirkpatrick, Associate Justice:** I wanted an opportunity to step outside my comfort zone and allow myself to embrace my future role as an advocate for my client.
- ◆ **Sterling Lovelady, Associate Justice:** The moot court board was an opportunity to harness my competitive nature. As someone who was initially terrified by the thought of speaking in a courtroom, I quickly discovered that the opportunity to prepare and compete in competitions on an educational platform was extremely fulfilling.
- ◆ **Taylor Ryan, Associate Justice:** I wanted to be elite. In life, I’ve never aspired to meet my goals; I want to surpass them. I didn’t want to graduate from law school; I wanted to master the law. Moot Court is a gathering of the best students of Stetson, and we face off with the best students from around the country—even the world.
- ◆ **Natalie Yello, Associate Justice:** I wanted to be on the Moot Court Board because I’ve always aspired to be a litigator. Upon entering law school, I realized that being a litigator required more than a courtroom presence, it also required the ability to deliver impeccable writing. I joined Moot Court so that I could learn to become an incredible wordsmith and advocate.

### And from our newest Moot Court Board members:

- ◆ **Miles Archabal:** I wanted to join the Moot Court Board to be a part of Stetson’s rich history in producing effective advocates. I am passionate about environmental issues and I knew that being a part of the Moot Court Board would allow me the opportunity to work with professors, coaches and my fellow board members to grow as an advocate for the environment by fine-tuning my written and oral advocacy skills.
- ◆ **Anne Boyle:** I wanted to be on Stetson’s Moot Court Board because of its reputation. The Moot Court Board is a piece of the puzzle that completes Stetson’s reputation as one of the best advocacy schools in the nation. It’s the start of a lifelong journey to advocate for your clients and to work with and learn from colleagues.

## Why did I want to join the Moot Court Board?

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### And more from our newest Moot Court Board members:

- ◆ **Brittnie Burns:** I wanted to be on the Moot Court Board because I wanted to enhance my advocacy skills. I get really nervous at the thought of having to answer questions from a judge and believe that Moot Court will help me develop the skills to successfully think on my feet.
- ◆ **Kris Galloway:** I wanted to be on the Moot Court Board to develop my oral and written advocacy skills, while also putting them to the test against the best law students in the nation.
- ◆ **Christina Huckfeldt:** I wanted to be on Moot Court to sharpen and improve practical skills of research, writing, speaking in court, and thinking on my feet. I also wanted to be part of the Stetson community and the outstanding Advocacy Boards.
- ◆ **Jeff Keller:** I wanted to be on the Moot Court Board to improve my legal writing. Furthermore, I wanted to develop my oral advocacy skills.
- ◆ **Felicia Kitzmiller:** I wanted to be on Moot Court to be a part of a tradition of excellence; to work with the most talented and passionate students and coaches; and to develop skills that will allow me to be the best attorney I can be.
- ◆ **Daniel Maharaj:** I wanted to be part of Stetson's Advocacy Board (one factor in why I selected Stetson). I also wanted to practice my advocacy skills. I wanted to see how my work compares at a competition level.
- ◆ **Logan Manderscheid:** I wanted to be on the Moot Court Board because I knew it would challenge me to become a better learner, a more refined speaker, and a stronger advocate.
- ◆ **Vanessa Moore:** I wanted to join the Moot Court Board to improve my oral advocacy skills and my confidence in a courtroom setting. I wanted to work with some of the smartest people at Stetson—including other Board members and coaches—and have the opportunity to learn from their expertise while improving my own.
- ◆ **Diego Pestana:** I wanted to be on the Moot Court Board because I wanted to grow as a legal writer and oralist. Also, I wanted to be part of the Stetson advocacy tradition.
- ◆ **Ali Preston:** I wanted to be on the Moot Court Board because the members I encountered and got to know during my first year were some of the most charismatic, intellectual, composed, and overall impressive people I had met at Stetson—if not throughout my life in general. I wanted to be a part of and help continue Stetson's tradition in excellence in advocacy, while simultaneously stimulating and challenging my intellectual curiosity and capabilities.
- ◆ **Hoyt Prindle:** I joined Moot Court because I recognized in the Chief Justice First-Year Oral Argument Competition how important the skills are that Moot Court develops. Moot Court helps one learn about what the actual law is and how to advocate for how the law is applied. It also requires being able to think quickly on one's feet in front of a judge, which is an immensely useful tool.
- ◆ **Kevin Reali:** Moot Court offers the opportunity to practice skills employers want, work with future peers in the legal community, and network with coaches and professors on a more personal and meaningful level. It does all that while being fun and engaging, a win-win for getting the most out of law school.
- ◆ **Jessica Vander Velde:** I want to improve my oral advocacy skills.

Interested in learning more about the Moot Court Board?  
Watch the Announcements for more news about upcoming events and activities!

Want to try out for the Moot Court Board—or the Dispute Resolution Board or Trial Team?  
Save the dates for the Advocacy Board Workshop and Tryouts in May:  
**May 7–10, 2017** for the Workshop, and **May 12–14, 2017**, for the Tryouts.  
See the Advocacy Board Tryouts Information webpage for more information!