



Shri Vile Parle Kelavani Mandal's
Jitendra Chauhan College of Law

02nd November, 2021

NOTICE FOR II & III YEAR LL.B STUDENTS

ADR CELL is pleased to inform all the students of S.Y. & T.Y LL.B that an Intra-Collegiate Online Client Counselling Competition shall be organized on **25th and 26th November 2021**. Students can participate in this competition in the following two capacities:

1. Advocate/ Lawyer / Counsel
2. Client

Students who wish to participate in the competition can register themselves by clicking on the below-mentioned google form link **after carefully reading the rules and regulations of the competition**. The form must be submitted on or before **15th November, 2021**.

<https://forms.gle/fkZ7oVufDLSsH1zG6>

ALL PARTICIPANTS SHALL BE ISSUED CERTIFICATES.

For any queries, doubts, and advice you may get in touch with any of the following faculty in charge:

1. Mrs. Navanitha Warriar – 7977048688 / navanitha.warrier@jccl.ac.in
2. Ms. Poorva Dighe - 9769513484 / Poorva.dighe@jccl.ac.in
3. Mrs. Sneha Anil Kumar – 9762663439 / sneha.kumar@jccl.ac.in

Dr. Priya J. Shah
(I/c Principal)

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INTRA-COLLEGIATE ONLINE CLIENT COUNSELLING COMPETITION

OBJECTIVE

This competition is a simulation of the first consultation by a client with an Advocate at their law office. It aims at developing listening, interviewing, analytical and advisory skills amongst law students. Through this competition, a law student can understand & experience the intricacies of an attorney-client relationship.

MODE OF CONDUCT OF COMPETITION

The competition, as of now, is planned to be held ONLINE. However, in the event of commencement of offline lectures, post Diwali vacation and willingness of sufficient number of student participants to physically attend the Competition in college, the same shall be conducted offline. In the event of the Competition being held offline the same shall be communicated in the pre-competition session.

PARTICIPATION

1. In the event of the competition being conducted ONLINE, competition shall have INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPATION.
2. In the event of the competition being held OFFLINE, the competition shall have TEAM PARTICIPATION. Necessary modifications shall be made in the judging criteria & sessions to be held in case of Team participation and shall be communicated during the pre-competition session.
3. Students may register themselves as an ADVOCATES or as a CLIENT.

PRE-COMPETITION SESSION

For the benefit of the first-time participants, a brief briefing session shall be held on 17th November, 2021 for the Clients and Advocates separately. Participants AFTER REGISTRATION may join this session through the following links:

1. **ADVOCATES** [1:30-2:00 PM] – https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_N2JiOGRjZmEtOTI1ZC00ZWl2LTk5MTEtMmI0Y2IyN2M1Y2Uz%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22d1f14348-f1b5-4a09-ac99-7ebf213cbc81%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%224a841da0-24ad-4ce8-9380-d795b84411ef%22%7d
2. **CLIENTS** – [2:15 – 2:45 pm] - https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_MWQwYjVmYzAtZTE5OS00ZjNjLTljOGMtYmRjNzUwODE1NDZ%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22d1f14348-f1b5-4a09-ac99-7ebf213cbc81%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%224a841da0-24ad-4ce8-9380-d795b84411ef%22%7d

ROLE OF THE ADVOCATE

1. The role of an advocate is to hold an interview/consultation with the client during the allotted time. During this period the advocate must try and understand the problem of the client, elicit all the requisite information, comprehend the legal issues involved therein, and provide legal advice as to the legal recourse available to the client, based on his requirements and curated for his needs.
2. Discussion on fees is an integral part of any first consultation between a lawyer and a client. The advocate may discuss fees at any appropriate point in the consultation. Fees

may be waived or suitably reduced only in cases of financial hardship, either for persons of low income or for persons of ordinary income faced with very large fees.

3. The advocate shall also be wary of any ethical or moral issues that may arise during the consultation. Issues relating to corruption, conflict of interests, etc may be raised by the clients, such issues must be handled tactfully, without offending/ insulting the client.
4. For the purpose of this competition, the area of law on which the client counselling problem shall be based are CONTRACT LAW, TORT LAW, and CRIMINAL LAW. The students are also advised to know the general remedies that are available in law as well as the various modes that are available for the settlement of disputes.

ROLE OF THE CLIENTS

1. The fact sheet containing the client counselling problem shall be disclosed to the client 25 mins before the actual session with the advocates.
2. The fact sheet of the problem shall have two sets of information viz. GENERAL FACTS & HIDDEN FACTS. The general facts shall contain basic information that clients can disclose freely, without the advocates asking/posing questions regarding the same, however, the hidden facts shall only be disclosed upon specific questions being asked in that regard.
3. The clients are free to creatively dramatize based on the fact sheet.
4. The client shall be present only during the Interview period of the Session.

SESSION / STRUCTURE OF THE COMPETITION

1. All participants will be allotted a total of 25 minutes. These 25 minutes shall comprise of the following three periods:
 - a. **INTERVIEW PERIOD:** the first 20 minutes of the session shall be dedicated to a consultation with an allotted client. During this period the advocate is

expected to conduct an interview with the client with the objective of eliciting all the relevant information necessary for understanding his legal problem. This session may include a discussion on legal fees and shall entail the advocates providing assistance to the client for enabling him to make an informed choice regarding the legal recourses available to him for addressing his concern.

- b. **POST INTERVIEW PERIOD (QUESTIONS BY JUDGES):** Last 5 minutes shall be dedicated to questions from the judges.
2. Extra time, if any may be allotted by the Judge at his discretion.

COMPETITION ROUNDS

1. The competition shall consist of only 2 rounds namely, PRELIMINARY ROUND, & FINAL ROUND.
2. Each round shall be conducted on a separate day and shall consist of a different problem.
3. The participants shall be ranked according to the marks scored in the preliminary round and the first 2 participants scoring the highest marks shall qualify for the Finals.

JUDGING CRITERIA

I. FOR THE ADVOCATES

- a. **DESCRIPTION OF THE PROBLEM (20 MARKS):** The judges shall take into account the effectiveness of the listening and interviewing undertaken for the purpose of drawing information and for getting a complete description of the client's problem.
- b. **CLIENT'S GOALS AND EXPECTATIONS (10 MARKS):** The judges will evaluate the extent to which the participant was able to understand the expectations of the client and recommend solutions based on them.

- c. **ANALYSIS OF PROBLEM (10 MARKS):** The judges will determine whether the participant was able to analyse the client's problem with creativity and from both legal and non-legal perspectives, resulting in a clear and useful formulation of the problem
- d. **MORAL AND ETHICAL ISSUES (10 MARKS):** the judges shall evaluate whether the participant was able to recognize, clarify, and respond to any moral or ethical issues that may have arisen, without being prejudicial or judgmental.
- e. **ALTERNATIVE COURSES OF ACTION (20 MARKS):** the judges shall evaluate whether the participant was consistent with the analysis of the client's problem, and was able to develop a set of potentially effective and feasible legal as well as non-legal.
- f. **CLIENT'S INFORMED CHOICE (10 MARKS):** the judges shall evaluate the participant on whether appropriate assistance was provided to the client in making an informed choice by taking into account, potential legal, economic, social and psychological consequences by helping him/her understand the problems & solutions.
- g. **WORKING ATMOSPHERE (10 MARKS):** Under this, the judges shall evaluate professional relationships and the working atmosphere including the efficiency of informing the client regarding fees, confidentiality, manner of responding to the client questions, conduct during the session, etc.
- h. **OVERALL RATING (10 MARKS)**

II. FOR CLIENTS

- a. **DESCRIPTION OF THE PROBLEM (20 MARKS):** The judges shall take into account the ability of the client to creatively narrate the problem to the advocates.

- b. **DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION (10 MARKS):** The judges shall take into account the manner of disclosure of general information and when the hidden facts were revealed.
- c. **ETHICAL AND FEE ISSUES (10 MARKS)**
- d. **OVERALL RATING (10 MARKS)**

USE OF MATERIALS AND PROPS:

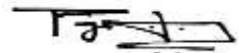
During the consultation and post consultation, the Advocate may use books, notes, and other materials. Office props (files, bookshelves, desktop furnishings, etc) may also be used. During the session, the participant will not be allowed to use any electronic device, like a laptop, mobile phone, etc for research purposes. In case of online competition, the students may only use these devices for joining the session. Any other unauthorized use will lead to disqualification. The student's participants can also use any books during the Session.

DRESS CODE

The advocates shall be dressed in professional formals. The clients do not have a dress code.

AWARDS & CERTIFICATES

1. The participants that score the highest marks as an Advocate & Client in the Final Round shall be declared as the Winners.
2. All students shall be issued certificates by the college for their participation and volunteer work.
3. Certificates shall be issued only upon participation or upon satisfactory completion of work in the case of volunteers.



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