

Lombardo & Gilles Attorneys Coach Alisal High School Students to Success in Monterey County Mock Trial Competition

May 2010

Lombardo and Gilles attorneys Gini Hines and Soren Diaz coached the mock trial team from Alisal High School to success in a countywide competition and received the “Salinas City Champions” certificate.

As a director on the Board of Directors of Monterey County Lyceum, which sponsors Monterey County’s mock trial program, Ms. Hines is responsible for facilitating the county’s mock trial program. Ms. Hines and Mr. Diaz have coached several high school teams over the years and worked with the Alisal High School team for hundreds of hours during this past school year.

Most of the mock trial students on the team are not native English speakers. After months of studying, practice, and coaching from Ms. Hines and Mr. Diaz, the Alisal High School team won several rounds for the first time since it began participating in the program.

Students in the mock trial program learn to respect and understand the country’s legal system and criminal justice system, speak in front of a large audience and judges, and argue legal points respectfully and effectively. The overriding goal of the program is to demonstrate to high school students that they can succeed if they continue their education and work hard. The program helps build the students’ confidence through coaching, leadership, and achievement.

Lombardo and Gilles is proud of its participation in the mock trial program.