LINDENWOOD

May 8, 2017

RE: Invitation to Mock Trial Event at Lindenwood University-Belleville

Dear Mock Trial Coordinators and Affiliates,

The Criminal Justice Department at Lindenwood University-Belleville would like to welcome prospective students to observe a campus-based mock trial competition in November 2017.

Associate Professor Shauntey James, J.D., Ph.D., leads this simulation and provides a unique opportunity for the student demanding academic rigor on two different levels. The first stage of this competition is at the local level. During this classroom process, participants become familiar with the legal system, while gaining critical thinking, public speaking, advocacy, teamwork, and character skills. The competition forces participants to think on their feet and construct persuasive arguments and examinations in a limited time period. Thus, students are provided a platform to gain and hone their skillset regardless of their major.

This experience spring-boards participants to the national level. Distinctive individuals will try out for limited spots on the National Mock Trial Team. The National team competes in the American Mock Trial Team Association (AMTA) held annually. Approximately 500 teams participate from 350 universities and colleges. The trial-simulation process includes battling with teams from across the country. Students demonstrate their skills on this "heated" debated forum.

The Criminal Justice Department formally invites interested students to attend the fall 2017 local to be held on the Lindenwood University-Belleville Campus on **November 18, 2017 from 8:30 AM** – **5:00 PM** in order to gain a first-hand understanding of this dynamic program and to discuss future opportunities for the National Mock Trial Team.

Should you wish to explore LU-Belleville's application process and other offerings, please visit: http://www.lindenwood.edu/belleville/. If you desire a formal invitation to the mock trial event, please contact our Department and one will be forwarded as the event date nears.

If you would like to speak with me further, please contact me at 618-239-6345 or jzlatic@lindenwood.edu.

Sincerely,

Joseph M. Zlatic, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor and Chair of Criminal Justice Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences