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James M. Biernat Jr., Chief Judge

16th Judicial Circuit Court,
Macomb County Probate Court,
42nd District Courts

## For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Judge Carl Marlinga (586-469-7149)

Date: March 17, 2016

## Macomb County Judge Chosen to Preside at Michigan High School State Mock Trial Finals

For the second year in a row, Macomb County Probate Judge Carl Marlinga has been chosen to serve as the Presiding Judge in the State Finals of the Michigan High School Mock Trial Tournament. The event will be held at the Veteran's Memorial Courthouse in Lansing, Michigan on Saturday, March 19, 2016.

The Tournament, which is sponsored by the Michigan Center for Civic Education, is a wonderful instructional opportunity for elementary and secondary students. Teams of students are assigned a "case" and act out the roles of attorneys and witnesses. The teams compete in real courtrooms and argue their cases in front of real judges and lawyers who have volunteered to judge the competition.

Judge Marlinga will serve as Presiding Judge for the final championship round of the tournament. "I have been impressed with the level of preparation, diligence, and skill of these young men and women. This competition is a great way to learn about our legal system. Even if these students do not choose a career in law, I am sure that they will come away from this program with a much better appreciation of how we strive to decide disputes accurately and justly", said Marlinga.

The Veteran's Memorial Courthouse is located at 313 W. Kalamazoo in Lansing, Michigan. The event runs from 8:00 a.m. to 6:40 p.m. For more information about the Michigan Center for Civic Education, please go to <a href="http://www.miciviced.org/">http://www.miciviced.org/</a>. For Judge Marlinga's profile, please visit <a href="http://probatecourt.macombgov.org/probatecourt-carlmarlinga">http://probatecourt.macombgov.org/probatecourt-carlmarlinga</a>.

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