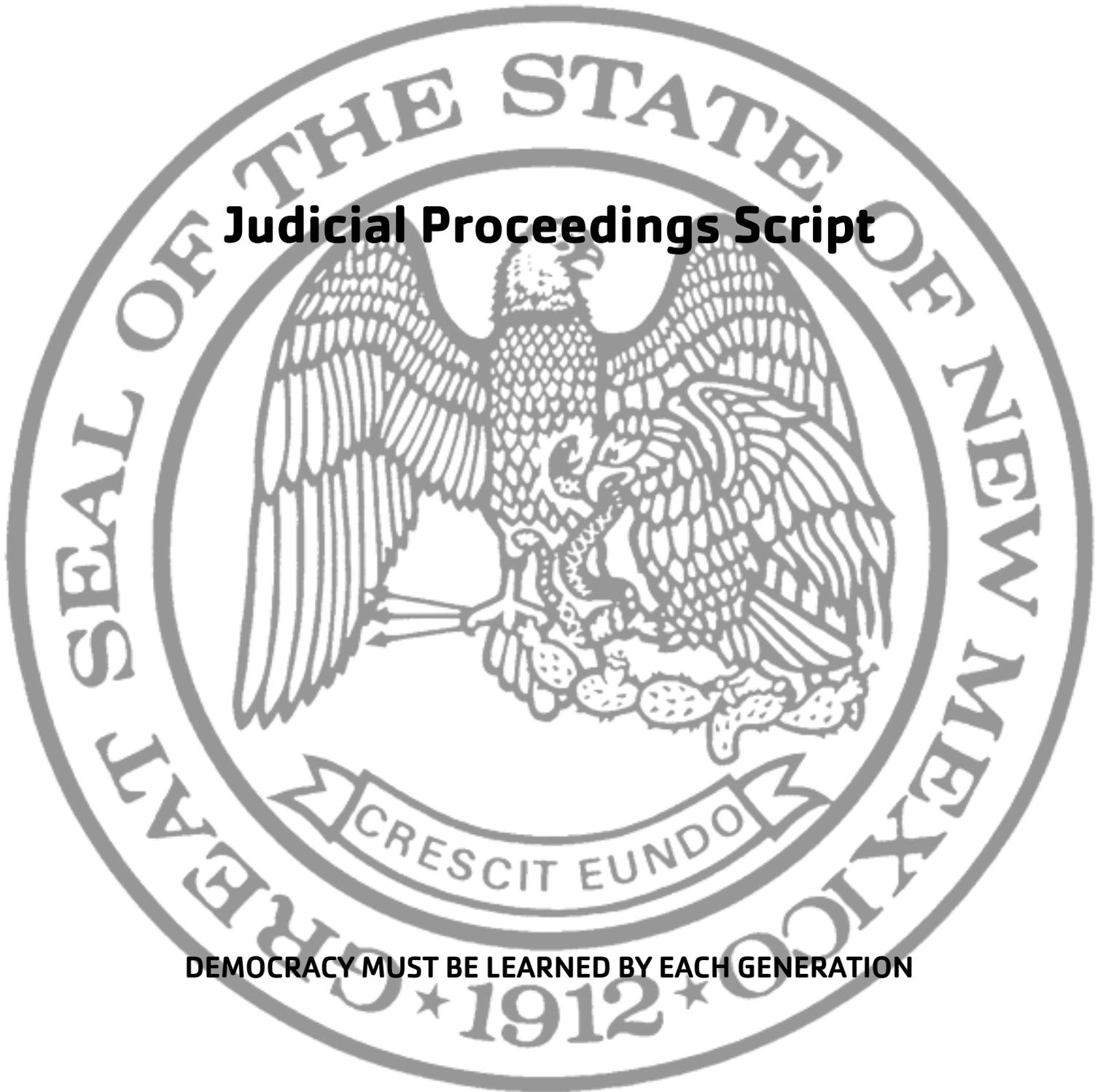




New Mexico Youth and Government

A Program of the YMCA of Central New Mexico

Judicial Proceedings Script



DEMOCRACY MUST BE LEARNED BY EACH GENERATION

Judicial Proceeding Script

Before the round begins the Chief Justice or Associate Justice should make sure that all competitors and justices are present. Ask a middle school page or an advisor to read the script to start the round. When you're ready, all justices should start outside of the room and as the page/advisor begins to speak start to walk in.

Page: Please stand for the Court.

All persons having business before the Honorable, the New Mexico Supreme Court, are admonished to draw near and give their attention, for the Court is now sitting.

C/A Justice: Please be seated.

We are on the record in the matter _____ v. _____.

Is the Petitioner ready?

Petitioner 1: Yes, your honor.

C/A Justice: Is the Respondent ready?

Respondent 1: Yes, your honor.

C/A Justice: The Court is ready to hear a 15-minute argument from Petitioner, followed by a 20-minute argument from Respondent, and then a 5-minute rebuttal.

Petitioner, you may enter your appearance and begin when ready.

Petitioner 1: May it please the court?

C/A Justice: It may.

Petitioner 1: I am counselor [insert name] and alongside my co-counsel, [insert name], we will be arguing on behalf of the Petitioner. I will be specifically addressing Issue 1 [insert issue].

Present Argument

Thank you for your time, your honors. I now yield my time to my co-counsel.

Petitioner 2: Thank you, your honors. I am addressing Issue 2 [insert issue].

Present Argument

Thank you for your time your honors. I yield my time to the court.

C/A Justice: Thank you, Petitioner. Respondent, you may enter your appearance and begin when ready.

Respondent 1: May it please the court?

C/A Justice: It may.

Respondent 1: I am counselor [insert name] and alongside my co-counsel, [insert name], we will be arguing on behalf of the Respondent. I will be specifically addressing Issue 1 [insert issue].

Present Argument

Thank you for your time, your honors. I now yield my time to my co-counsel.

Respondent 2: Thank you, your honors. I am addressing Issue 2 [insert issue].

Present Argument

Thank you for your time, your honors. I yield my time to the court.

C/A Justice: Thank you, Respondent. Petitioner, is there a rebuttal argument?

Petitioner: Yes, your Honor.

Present Argument

Thank you for your time, your honors. I yield my time to the court.

C/A Justice: Thank you, Counselors. The Court will take this matter under advisement. We are now off the record.