



SELFISH ATTORNEY REAPS MORE THAN SHE SOWS

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The High School Mock Trial program is sponsored by the Younger Lawyers' Division of the State Bar. I haven't qualified as a "Younger" lawyer for a long time, yet this is the second consecutive year I've found myself coaching a team. I have no child on the team, and as a matter of fact, I have no child enrolled at the school that sponsors the team, North Gwinnett High. Come to think of it, out of the other attorney-coaches for this team, NONE of us has a child on the team (my co-coaches are former GCBA President Jorgia Northrup, parent of two NGHS grads-Mickey Roberts and NGHS alum-Gregory Vanison). I cannot speak for the other coaches, but I can tell you that working with these enthusiastic students teaches me listening skills and patience. While meeting with them to brainstorm theories of a case, to determine which witnesses should be called to testify in which order, to speak with poise and confidence in easy-to-understand language, I feel as though I am the student and they, the teachers. By the time you read this, the regional competition will have come and gone, and Judge Turner may or may not have held you in contempt for dodging her requests for Evaluators and Judges. I challenge you to join me in selfishness, and consider working with these fine high school students in whatever capacity you can, and see up close that there are many in our community who look up to us and hold the court system in high esteem.



(Editor's note: join us next month for a full recap on all things Mock Trial.)