



OBJECTIVE

The Business Law event involves a team of two (2) participants analyzing a real-world case law situation that deals with marketing/business activity, then presenting solutions/recommendations to a professional (judge) with experience in business.

DESCRIPTION

The Business Law event involves the participants' analysis of a business law case situation, and the effectiveness of the participants' oral presentation. The following areas of business law may be covered in this event: contracts, sales and product liability, torts, agency/employment, intellectual property, cyberlaw, real and personal property, and the debtor-creditor relationship.

This case situation is typically presented in written form. In addition to the case situation, related case precedents information will also be provided.

Based on the situation, the participants may assume the role of legal counsel for the business represented by the situation, or they may be acting as outside observers. The team will make decisions/recommendations regarding the situation and make a presentation to judges.

The position of the judge(s) will be determined by the specific case situation. The judge(s) may be representatives of an organization represented by the situation, or they may be acting as outside observers.

For international competition, the content to be evaluated is found in the standard *Evaluation Form* located in these *Guidelines*, with a possible one hundred (100) points. Preliminary round competition will consist of an evaluation of the presentation to the judge(s). Teams will be ranked by section and a predetermined number of teams will be named finalists. Finalists will be given a different case situation and will present their solution to a new judge or set of judges, who will evaluate each team and determine final rankings. The following guidelines will be applied to the presentations at the International Career Development Conference.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Through the analysis of the legal case situation and precedents information and the presentation of solutions/recommendations, the participants will develop or reinforce the following areas in relation to business law:

- Developing a heightened focus on a topic in Business Law
- Understanding and appreciating the purpose of business regulation
- Demonstrating knowledge/understanding of case law
- Organizing and communicating legal ideas and concepts effectively
- Using critical thinking skills to synthesize case law into workable material
- Accomplishing objectives as a team

PARTICIPANT INSTRUCTIONS

GUIDELINES FOR THE PRESENTATION

Refer to Evaluation Form.

1. All materials, equipment, supplies, etc. must be provided by the participants. **DECA ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR DAMAGE/LOSS OF MATERIALS, EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES, ETC.**
2. The team will be given a business law case situation, along with related case precedents information.
3. Each team will have one (1) hour for analyzing the situation and preparing their presentation.
4. Team members may not consult anyone about the business law situation and precedents other than the official team members.
5. A personal or laptop computer/hand-held digital organizer may be used when appropriate. **Participants must use battery power for the prep time and presentation, even if there are electrical outlets in the room.** Such digital organizers may be prepared ahead of time (i.e., standard headings for a PowerPoint presentation) provided there is no reference to the specific case situation.
6. Participants may bring materials to develop visual aids to assist them in their presentation. The supplies may consist of poster paper, flip charts, blank paper, and art supplies. Such visual aids may be prepared ahead of time (i.e., standard headings on a flip chart) provided there is no reference to the specific case situation.
7. Participants are allowed to bring reference materials to use in preparing their presentation. This may include electronic (such as CD encyclopedias) as well as print materials (such as law books or textbooks).
8. Only materials (includes any computer equipment, visual aids, reference materials, etc.) that can be easily carried to and from the prep and judging areas by the actual participants will be permitted. Only the participants themselves may handle and set up their material. No outside assistance will be allowed.
9. Any cell phone use, text messaging, email, etc. is prohibited during the entire competitive event.
10. Internet access is prohibited during the entire competitive event.
11. No specified set-up time will be allowed. All set up will be part of the allotted presentation time. Timing will begin when the participants enter the judging area (i.e. judge booth).
12. No material of any kind may be passed to the judges. Material that is placed on the judge table for them to handle will be considered as being “passed” to the judges.
13. Participants will interact with the judges for up to fifteen (15) minutes. This includes time for the participants to present their pattern of thought and reason for their decisions/recommendations and to answer the judge’s questions.
14. When using a presentation aid, such as a lap-top computer, the noise level must be kept at a conversational level that does not interrupt other participants. If this guideline is not followed, the participant will be interrupted (during the prep or presentation time) and asked to follow the noise policy. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.

Presentation Schedule

One (1) hour to analyze the situation and prepare a response

Fifteen (15) minutes for the team’s presentation and questions by the judges

Five (5) minutes for scoring by the judges

JUDGE INSTRUCTIONS

Each team of participants with an interest in business law will analyze a real-world case law situation that deals with marketing/business activity. The following areas of business law may be covered in this event: contracts, sales and product liability, torts, agency/employment, intellectual property, cyberlaw, real and personal property, and the debtor-creditor relationship. The team will present solutions/recommendations regarding the situation and make a presentation to you, the judge(s).

This case situation is typically presented in written form. Based on the situation, the participants may be asked to assume the role of legal counsel for an organization represented by the situation, or they may be acting as outside observers. The position of the judge(s) will be determined by the specific case situation. You may be representatives of an organization represented by the situation, or may be acting as outside observers.

JUDGING THE PRESENTATION

1. To ensure fairness, at no time should a participant be asked where he/she is from (school, state, country, etc.).
2. Participants will be evaluated according to a standard *Evaluation Form*.
3. Participants will be scheduled for presentations at twenty (20) minute intervals. Remember, your role will be determined by the specific case situation.
4. Please place the participants' names and identification numbers (using labels if provided) on the bubble score sheet as instructed (if not already done). If a bubble sheet has not been provided, this information must be placed on the evaluation form for this event.
5. You will interact with the participant for up to fifteen (15) minutes. This includes time for the participants to present to you based on the case study situation, and for you to make comments and ask questions.
6. Following the fifteen (15) minute interaction period, please thank the participants. If appropriate to the situation, please state that a decision will be made soon and that the participants will be notified of the decision.
7. During the last five (5) minutes, after the participants are excused from the judging area, you may score the team. Refer to the *Evaluation Criteria* section for guidelines. On the bubble sheet provided, please bubble in the appropriate score AND write the score on the corresponding line to verify accuracy. Please make sure not to exceed the maximum score possible for each item.

Please make sure to score all categories, add them for the total score, then initial the total score. The maximum score for the evaluation is one hundred (100) points.

Note: If a bubble sheet has not been provided, you will indicate your scores on the Business Law Evaluation Form.

Presentation Schedule

Presentations will be scheduled at twenty (20) minute intervals
Fifteen (15) minutes for presentation of the decisions/recommendations
by the team and questions by the judges
Five (5) minutes for scoring by the judges

EVALUATION CRITERIA

A score under the heading **Exceeds Expectations** in any category means that, in your opinion, the information is presented in an effective, creative way; in effect, nothing more could be expected of the participants, and their decisions/recommendations have been presented well.

A score under the heading **Meets Expectations** in any category means that, in your opinion, the information is presented well. There may be a few minor problems or omissions, but they are not significant. Decisions/Recommendations that earn this level in every category for the presentation would probably receive strong consideration for implementation.

A score under the heading **Below Expectations** or **Little/No Demonstration** in any category means that some major flaw has been noted which damages the effectiveness of the presentation. This may be a major omission, a serious misstatement or any other major flaw.

JUDGING SUMMARY

Maximum score is 100 points. A score of 70 or better will earn the participants a Certificate of Excellence.

We hope you are impressed by the quality of work from these students with an interest in business law. If you have any suggestions for improving this event, please mention them to your event manager.

We thank you for your help.

Participant's Name: _____

I.D. Number: _____

Evaluation Form

Participant's Name: _____

I.D. Number: _____

	Little/No Demonstration	Below Expectations	Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations	Judged Points
1. Did the team correctly analyze the situation? (Possible Points 10)	0-1-2	3-4-5	6-7-8	9-10	_____
2. Did the team exhibit clear-cut understanding of the purpose of business regulation? (Possible Points 10)	0-1-2	3-4-5	6-7-8	9-10	_____
3. Did the team demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of case law? (Possible Points 10)	0-1-2	3-4-5	6-7-8	9-10	_____
4. Did the team organize their legal ideas and concepts effectively? (Possible Points 15).	0-1-2-3-4	5-6-7-8	9-10-11-12	13-14-15	_____
5. Did the team demonstrate a clear knowledge of the law related to this particular case study scenario? (Possible Points 15).	0-1-2-3-4	5-6-7-8	9-10-11-12	13-14-15	_____
6. Were the legal ideas and concepts communicated with the proper legal terminology? (Possible Points 10) . . .	0-1-2	3-4-5	6-7-8	9-10	_____
7. Did the team use realistic strategies to establish their solution? (Possible Points 15)	0-1-2-3-4	5-6-7-8	9-10-11-12	13-14-15	_____
8. Did the team show an equal effort in the presentation? (Possible Points 10) . . .	0-1-2	3-4-5	6-7-8	9-10	_____
9. Overall performance: Appropriate appearance, poise, confidence, presentation technique, etc. (Possible Points 5)	0-1	2-3	4	5	_____
Total Judged Points (100 maximum):					_____

A score of 70 or better will earn the participant a Certificate of Excellence.

JUDGE SECTION: A B C D E F G (circle one)

Tie Breaker

For tie-breaking purposes, the following evaluation form ranking process will be used. Begin with item #7. The team with the highest score for #7 wins the tie-break. If this does not break the tie, continue the process for the remaining evaluation items in the following order: 5, 4, 1, 3, 2, 6, 8, 9.