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Touro Law Center Team Reaches Final Rounds in International Moot Competition

Central Islip, NY—Touro Law Center’s student team advanced to the elimination rounds in the prestigious 18th Annual Willem C. Vis International Arbitration Moot in Vienna, Austria. The competition included 255 teams from more than 60 countries around the world. Touro Law’s team was comprised of Jessica Bryant, Tali Jawitz, Michael Lauterborn and Stephanie Mazzotta.

“Our students did an outstanding job in this competition and as ambassadors for Touro Law through their hard work and excellent performance,” said Professor Jack Graves, faculty coach for the team. “Our students were among the best in this global competition. I am extremely proud of them.”

All 255 teams participated in four preliminary rounds over the course of four days, after which the field was reduced to 64 teams, including Touro Law, who competed in elimination rounds for a place on the final stage in front of almost two thousand students, arbitrators and law professors from around the globe. The Touro Law team received an Honorable Mention award in team orals and Jessica Bryant received an Honorable Mention for her individual performance in the oral rounds.

The Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot is the largest and most prestigious private law student moot in the world. The event was designed to foster study and increase global awareness in the areas of international sales law (focusing on the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the Sale of Goods) and international commercial arbitration (focusing on the UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration) and also to bring students, practitioners, and law professors from around the globe together for a single event in Vienna. Each year, the Moot revolves around a fictional international transaction in goods, which includes an agreement to resolve any disputes in arbitration. For the students, the six-month enterprise includes the submission of written memoranda for both Claimant and Respondent, followed by oral arguments held in Vienna the week before Easter. In addition to students and coaches, the event draws hundreds of preeminent practitioners and law professors from around the world to participate as arbitrators.

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Touro College Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center’s 185,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility is located adjacent to both a state and a federal courthouse in Central Islip, New York. Touro Law’s proximity to the courthouses, coupled with programming developed to integrate the courtroom into the classroom, provide a one-of-a-kind learning model for law students, combining a rigorous curriculum taught by expert faculty with a practical courtroom experience. Touro Law, which has a student body of approximately 750 and an alumni base of more than 5,000, offers full- and part-time J.D. programs, several dual degree programs and graduate law programs for US and foreign law graduates. Touro Law Center is part of the Touro College system.

Touro is a system of Jewish-sponsored non-profit institutions of higher and professional education. Touro College was established in 1971 primarily to enrich the Jewish heritage, and to serve the larger American community. More than 18,000 students are currently enrolled in its various schools and divisions. Touro College has branch campuses, locations and instructional sites in the New York area, as well as branch campuses and programs in Berlin, Jerusalem, Moscow, Paris and Florida. Touro University California and its Nevada branch campus, as well as Touro College Los Angeles, are separately accredited institutions governed in common by the same Board of Trustees as Touro College.