

## Georgia Law captures national moot court trophy



At the First Annual Emory National Civil Rights and Liberties Moot Court Competition are: (l. to r.) Director of Advocacy Kellie Casey Monk (J.D.'90) and third-year students Jennifer Blakely, Cameron Hawkins and Shunta Harmon.

The University of Georgia School of Law won the First Annual Emory National Civil Rights and Liberties Moot Court Competition in October.

Third-year law students Jennifer S. Blakely, Shunta R. Harmon and Cameron D. Hawkins took first place against teams from other schools such as the University of Virginia, the University of California-Hastings, Mercer University and the New York Law School, to name a few.

"It is always great to start the season with a win, especially in a national competition," Georgia Law Director of Advocacy Kellie Casey Monk (J.D.'90) said. "It makes it

extra special that this was a new competition and our law school will be recorded as the first to ever win it."

The case argued by the team involved issues surrounding the Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment, the Religious Freedom Restoration Act and the Equal Protection Clause.

Judges for the final round of the competition included: Judge Martha C. Daughtrey of the Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit, Senior Judge Jane R. Roth of the Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit and Senior Judge A. Wallace Tashima of the Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit.

## Georgia Law scores victory in Hulse-Kimbrell competition

The University of Georgia School of Law won the 27th Annual Hulse-Kimbrell Moot Court Competition, defeating the University of Florida in late October on the eve of the yearly Georgia-Florida football showdown.

Third-year law students Rebecca M. Thornhill and Tully T. Blalock comprised the school's winning team.

"Securing this win over Florida with a set of arguments that the panel defined as 'some of the finest ever heard in the history of the competition,' made all of the hard work and preparation that Rebecca and Tully put into this tournament so worthwhile," Georgia Law Director of Advocacy Kellie Casey Monk (J.D.'90) said. "The victory is even sweeter as both of Georgia's teams emerged from the weekend as winners."

Thornhill and Blalock argued the case *United States v. Matthew Mazzarella* before a distinguished panel of judges including: Judge Gerald B. Tjoflat of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit; U.S. District Court Senior Judges Anthony A. Alaimo and B. Avant Edenfield (J.D.'58), both from the Southern District of Georgia; and U.S. District Court Judge Timothy J. Corrigan and Senior Judge John H. Moore II, both from the Middle District of Florida.

With this year's victory, the School of Law continued its domination of the Hulse-Kimbrell competition with a record that now stands at 18-7-2.

## School of Law wins national mock trial invitational; advances to national tier in National Moot Court tournament

The University of Georgia School of Law recently won the William W. Daniel National Invitational Mock Trial Competition, a first for the law school in this tournament and the second national title captured by the school's Advocacy Program this academic year.

Third-year law students Kristen P. Boyd, Kevin E. Epps, Scott R. Grubman and Adam L. Hebbard comprised the winning team and were coached by School of Law Prosecutorial Clinic Director Alan A. Cook (J.D.'84).

The case argued was *State v. Pamela Scott*, a murder case in which Scott was accused of killing her husband but claimed self-defense.

Additionally, the School of Law finished as a finalist in a National Moot Court Competition regional tournament, qualifying the team to advance to the national round, which will be held in New York during late January.

Representing Georgia Law in the national round will be third-year law students James E. Butler III, Naveen Ramachandrappa and Alexandra H. Yeager, the same trio which finished as finalists in the regionals.

Each year, more than 150 law schools compete in the regional rounds throughout the United States for a chance to be one of 28 teams to argue at the national tier of the tournament.

"Both our mock trial and moot court programs are performing extremely well," Georgia Law Director of Advocacy Kellie Casey Monk (J.D.'90) said. "We are very proud of all of our students and the hard work they put into these competitions. To have two national championships, a regional title and the opportunity to win another national trophy so early in the season is phenomenal. We are off to a tremendous start this year."