

For Immediate Release
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Loyola Law School's Byrne Trial Advocacy Team, Winner of the National Trial Competition, to Receive Award From American College of Trial Lawyers

Los Angeles, May 13, 2005—In recognition of the Loyola Law School Byrne Trial Advocacy Team, which won the 2005 National Trial Competition, the American College of Trial Lawyers will present awards to team members at a celebration on May 18th.

The National Trial Competition is considered the nation's most prestigious trial advocacy tournament. Byrne Trial Advocacy Team members Melissa Lyons, Katie McCann and Brian Ward participated in six criminal trials, defeating teams from Northwestern School of Law, the University of New Mexico School of Law, the University of Virginia School of Law, Stetson University College of Law, Suffolk University Law School and Washington University St. Louis School of Law. Team member Melissa Lyons was also named "Best Advocate" at the tournament.

Twenty-six teams competed in the national after winning regional tournaments, in which 150 ABA-accredited schools competed. The competition was sponsored by the Texas Young Lawyers and the American College of Trial Lawyers.

Of their success, Dean David Burcham said, "Historically, Loyola Law School has excelled in training superb trial lawyers. We therefore are exceedingly proud that these soon-to-be lawyers are carrying on the tradition of excellence in trial practice."

The award ceremony will take place on Wednesday, May 18th at 4:00 pm, followed by a reception. Speakers include the president of the American College of Trial Lawyers, James W. Morris III and dean of Loyola Law, David W. Burcham. Members of the media are invited to attend. For access, please contact Kira Poplowski, director of communications, at kira.poplowski@lls.edu.

About the Byrne Trial Advocacy Program

The Byrne Trial Advocacy Program, named in honor of the late Hon. William M. Byrne, Sr., a 1929 alumnus of Loyola Law, trains talented law students in all aspects of trial advocacy. Loyola's teams have been extremely successful, winning 13 out of the last 16 regional tournaments and five national championships in the last six years. *US News & World Report* ranked Loyola's trial advocacy program as one of the top programs in the nation.

About Loyola Law School Los Angeles

Located in downtown Los Angeles—a legal, financial and media capital—Loyola Law is home to prominent faculty, dedicated students and cutting-edge programs. Committed to legal ethics and the public interest, Loyola Law School has produced top attorneys for nearly a century. For expert commentary, please contact Kira Poplowski, director of communications, at 213.736.1445 or kira.poplowski@lls.edu. For more information on Loyola Law, please visit www.lls.edu.

About the American College of Trial Lawyers

The American College of Trial Lawyers (ACTL), founded in 1950, is composed of the best of the trial bar from the US and Canada. Fellowship in the College is by invitation, extended only after careful investigation, to experienced trial lawyers who demonstrated exceptional skill as advocates and whose professional careers have been marked by the highest standards of ethical conduct, professionalism and civility. For more information, visit www.actl.com.

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