

Harry Phillips American Inn of Court

JURY DEMAND OR NO JURY DEMAND, THAT IS THE QUESTION

Date: May 20, 2008

Captains: Monte Watkins and Bill Harbison

Liaison: Bill Ramsey

Team Members:

Jackie Dixon	Bill Farmer	Anne Martin
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Background:

Deciding whether to request a jury is an important tactical decision. Studies indicate that this decision can significantly affect the outcome in both criminal and civil proceedings.

Recommended Points to Discuss:

The purpose of this program is to discuss the strategy and factors that lawyers use to decide whether to request a jury or not and to discuss the practical effect of these decisions in actual cases. It would also be helpful to provide some of the more current studies regarding the effect of the choice on the outcome of civil and criminal proceedings.

Format Ideas:

Invite prominent criminal defense lawyers, plaintiff's lawyers, and defense lawyers to discuss their approaches to this question.