



Author of the Moot Problem

Prof John McDermott

John McDermott is a graduate of Middlebury College (BA) and the University of Denver (JD) and has over forty years experience as a lawyer and law professor including five years as an attorney with the federal judicial system. His major areas of interest include intellectual property, civil dispute resolution, and international trade. He also has ten years pre-law experience as a research chemist and aerospace engineer. John is licensed to practice before the United States Supreme Court, the Montana Supreme Court, the Colorado Supreme Court, the United States District Courts for the Districts of Colorado and Montana, and the United States Courts of Appeal for the Ninth and Tenth Circuits. He has been member of LAWASIA (Lawyers Association for Asia and the Western Pacific) for more than twenty five years and a regular speaker at Law Conferences (1985 to present). John was an Associate Professor of Law and Director of the Indian Law Program for the University of Montana School of Law where he directed legal services program for Native Americans while representing them in Federal and State court litigation. He also served as General Counsel for several Indian Organizations and conducted training programs for Indian leaders, including programs for tribal court judges and administrative personnel. John was also the visiting Professor of Law to Dokkyo University, visiting Lecturer to Waseda University (both in Japan) and visiting Professor of Law at Vermont Law School. Presently, he is a Professor of Law at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles where he teaches Admiralty Law, Intellectual Property Law, Conflict of Laws (Private International Law), International Business Transactions, Japanese Law and Islamic Law. He also has taught Civil Procedure, International Commercial Arbitration, Federal Jurisdiction, and International Civil Litigation.

Potential Conflict of interest ... or appearance thereof.

As some of coaches may be aware, in addition to drafting the Moot Problem for the past several years, Professor McDermott has selected and coached the team representing Loyola Law School of Los Angeles. A team from Loyola-Los Angeles will compete in the Singapore and Professor McDermott will attend the Moot as the coach of the team.

However, in order to eliminate any unfairness – or appearance of unfairness, Professor McDermott has agreed not to discuss the issues raised in this year’s Problem with the members of the Loyola-LA team until the “Official Analysis” (“Bench Brief”), which he will also prepare, has been sent to all coaches who may share and discuss it with the members of their teams. This will not be done until all teams have submitted their written pleadings (Memorials). At that point, all teams, including the Loyola-Los Angeles Team will have the benefit of his analysis of the Problem. The Moot’s General Director was advised of this situation in advance and, having great faith in Professor McDermott’s honesty and integrity, has approved this arrangement.