



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT™  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

**AMELIE HODGES' FORENSIC FILES:**

**THE CASE OF  
"THE PENNY PARK PLACE  
PERPETRATOR"**

**IN THE COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS**

---

**GREG SHEARS, APPELLANT  
V.  
THE STATE OF TEXAS, APPELLEE**

---

**CASE MATERIALS FOR THE  
YMCA TEXAS YOUTH & GOVERNMENT  
2013-2014 APPEALS COMPETITION**

**TEXAS  
YOUTH  
& GOVERNMENT**

**By: Ashley L. Myrick**  
August 20, 2013

Appellate Delegates,

You made it. You've researched, practiced, and prepared. Now for the fun part! I want to congratulate you for finding the very best outlet of Y&G. All of the hard work you've done is about to pay off, and I absolutely can't wait.

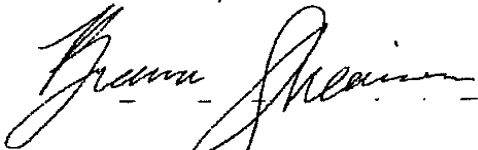
I always have a special respect for all of our appeals delegates because you don't only have to know, defend, and support one side of a multifaceted issue, but do the same for it's polar opposite. I encourage you to cultivate the curiosity and open mindedness that naturally comes with this process.

Because you have come this far, it is safe to infer that you are intelligent, hard working, and passionate. It would be unfair, however, to assume you know every little detail of every procedure and rule. Never be afraid to ask questions. The more you learn here, the fuller your experience will be. I owe everything to the people who helped me when I asked, and I've become a brighter delegate because of them. There is nothing I would enjoy more than helping you succeed! Appellate is wonderful and very fun, but it can definitely be a lot to handle. No worries, we're all in the same boat. Don't be afraid, seize the debate, and always respect your fellow delegates as much as you would like to be respected.

Revel in the reward of your hard work, right here, right now. Cherish every minute, one debate at a time. If you can't get enough of appeals, you are welcome to consider the National Judicial Program (NJP). NJP is a national conference especially for appeals and has delegates from all over the Nation. Also, tell your friends how wonderful appellate is! We need to do everything we can to expand this branch!

With this in mind, friends, it's going to be a year to remember. Be careful to remember what you leave here, what example you set, what legacy you leave. You are leaders, so lead, and followers will follow. I am so happy you're here!

With much love,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brenna Sheridan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Brenna Sheridan  
Youth Chief Justice 2013-2014

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### ATTACHMENT 1 – RULES AND INSTRUCTIONS

I.	Specific Competition Instructions .....	1-1
II.	What is Appellate and How Does it Work .....	1-2
III.	Briefs .....	1-4
IV.	Research Tips .....	1-9
V.	Constructing Your Argument .....	1-10
VI.	Attorney Oral Arguments .....	1-11
VII.	Judges.....	1-16
VIII.	Bailiffs.....	1-16
IX.	Format of the Competition .....	1-17
X.	The Competition.....	1-19
XI.	Post-Trial Information .....	1-19

### ATTACHMENT 2 - APPELLATE CASE

Cover Page .....	2-1
Appellate Information Page.....	2-2
Memorandum to Court .....	2-3
Record on Appeal .....	2-7
Indictment.....	2-8
Capital Judgment and Verdict.....	2-9
Order Regarding Jury Misconduct.....	2-13
Order Regarding Suppression of Exculpatory Evidence .....	2-18
Trial Record .....	2-21

### ATTACHMENT 3 - CASES AND AUTHORITIES

List of Cases.....	i
Copies of Jury Misconduct Cases.....	3-1
Copies of Suppression of Exculpatory Evidence Cases.....	3-23

### ATTACHMENT 4 – SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

Brief Cover Page for this year.....	4-1
Sample Attorney Brief #1 from a previous year .....	4-2
Sample Attorney Brief #2 from previous year .....	4-11
Sample Judge Brief from a previous year .....	4-17
Oral Argument Scoring Sheet .....	4-23
Attorney Brief Scoring Sheet .....	4-24
Judge Brief Scoring Sheet .....	4-25
Attorney Compilation Score Form .....	4-26
Judge Compilation Score Form .....	4-27
Judge’s Ballot .....	4-28