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CITIZENSHIP**

*Preparing Youth for Today's World
and Tomorrow's Responsibilities*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**LOCAL COMMUNITY CHALLENGES
FEDERAL IMMIGRATION STATUTE**

Sacramento, CA – January 31, 2007 – Setting their emotions aside, high school students are preparing to objectively tackle the contentious issue of immigration. Recently, the immigration debate has had the potential to polarize our local, state and federal governments and elected officials. For this reason, our local high school youth are taking proactive steps to analyze the issue in a critical and thoughtful manner.

Through the Center for Youth Citizenship's (CYC) Gordon D. Schaber (GDS) High School Law Program, students are being challenged to thoroughly examine and critically analyze all aspects of the recent immigration debate in preparation for the program's culminating competition events.

The 2007 Moot Court Case, *State of Segurida v. Department of National Assurance*, requires participating youth to consider the case of appellant State of Segurida, who appeals to the United States Supreme Court, contending that a new federal statute requires local implementation and enforcement of federal immigration laws. Through the lenses of the 10th and 14th Amendments, local students study the competing interests of local and federal jurisdictions and, with the assistance of legal professionals, develop compelling arguments for both the appellant and respondent.

The program's final round of competition, featuring finalist teams from Bella Vista High School and Rio Americano High School and Justices from the California Court of Appeal will take place at the California Court of Appeal, 3rd Appellate District, 914 Capitol Mall in downtown Sacramento, on Wednesday, January 31, 2007, from 5:30 to 7:30 PM.

Through participation in CYC's GDS High School Law Program, youth learn to work as a team, develop their critical thinking, public speaking, leadership, and problem solving skills, and interact with local leaders, including Superior Court Judges, Appellate and U.S. District Court Justices, and Sacramento area legal professionals. Annually, the program involves over 500 local youth and 150 legal professionals.

For additional information, please contact the Center for Youth Citizenship at cyc@scoe.net or (916) 228-2322.

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