

The American Mock Trial Association

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Dear AMTA Community,

I am writing with extremely sad news, as our community suffered a tragic loss on Wednesday evening, November 7, 2018. On behalf of the entire American Mock Trial Association community, we mourn the loss of Ms. Alaina Housley, a member of the Pepperdine University Mock Trial team and a victim of the mass shooting in Thousand Oaks, California.

Alaina, 18, was a first-year English major from Napa, California, who was recently thrilled to join the mock trial team at Pepperdine. Alaina's passing is an incalculable loss for the mock trial community, and our deepest condolences go out to Alaina's family and to those in the Pepperdine University Mock Trial program. To lose such a talented person at such a young age is a tragedy. We ask that our community join us in keeping Alaina's family, friends, and loved ones in their thoughts during this incredibly difficult time. For those looking for more information about Alaina's life and contributions to Pepperdine's community, you can learn more through the article published about Alaina in Pepperdine University's *Graphic*.

Alaina's family has asked that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to Alaina's Voice to continue to keep Alaina's voice alive to better our world. If anyone from the AMTA community donates, Alaina's father asks that the donors send him an email to let him know about their gift. All members of the AMTA community are welcome to attend the University Memorial Service on Wednesday, November 28, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. in Firestone Fieldhouse on Pepperdine's campus. Members of the AMTA community may also send messages directly to the Pepperdine Mock Trial program via email.

While AMTA grows larger every year, our community remains strong and close across the country. During this time of mourning, we are all with Pepperdine Mock Trial, and we know that we will grieve together and support each other now and into the future.

Sincerely,
William Warmay
AMTA President