Dear NTC Regional Participants,

The National Trial Competition Committee has carefully reviewed the questions submitted by participating schools regarding the Regional Problem. The committee has made some minor revisions to the problem to address some of the issues raised. Please allow this email to serve as revisions and/or stipulations to the 2021 NTC Regional Problem:

1. Exhibit 7 was recorded by Tim Taylor on a phone belonging to him.
2. Tim Taylor’s vehicle stalled in heavy smoke, at which point Mr. Taylor exited the vehicle in an attempt to escape the smoke and fire.
3. The cause of Tim Taylor’s death was smoke inhalation.
4. Armadillo, Lone Star, is located 100 miles south of the border between Lone Star and the panhandle of Oklahoma.
5. Andy Russell’s deposition will be revised to reflect the following:
   a. The wildfire occurred on March 16, 2017, and
   b. Andy Russell became aware of the fire at approximately 2:30.
6. Wildland Fire Origin and Cause Page 129 will be provided.
7. Exhibit 26 will denote the cardinal direction north.
8. Chris Evans deposition will be revised to remove the testimony “Well at that point, the fire had spread and it was behind the residence and was starting to cross the road.”

The committee will issue a revised problem which makes the corrections indicated above. For the time being, please allow this email to serve as a stipulation to all items addressed above.

The NTC Committee recognizes that it did not answer many of the questions asked or provide clarification on many of the issues raised. The purpose of this competition, however, is to provide a forum to showcase trial advocacy, while maintaining an appropriate balance in a problem that can be tried in a short period of time. The NTC Committee thoroughly reviewed all the questions submitted, and if your question was not answered, it was not an oversight. If your particular question was not answered, then the NTC Committee: (1) considered the question to be a point of advocacy; (2) decided that the answer to the question could be found in the NTC’s Rules or in the problem itself; or (3) concluded that the question is addressed by the applicable rules of evidence or procedure.

Sincerely,
Timothy Williams
NTC Problem Committee Chair