Kevin Poush

1. What year(s) did you participate and who was or were your teammate?

2013-2015. Krist Biakanja and Shelby Morgan were my partners over the years.

1. If you have graduated and moved on, what do you do now and how or did moot court help you for your future?

I will be graduating in May 2017 from Southwestern Law School. I tried out for both the Moot Court and Trial Advocacy honors programs at Southwestern. Both try outs consisted of an intramural tournament, and I made it to the final round of the Trial Advocacy tournament and the Semi-Final round of the Moot Court tournament. Since you can’t join both honors programs, I chose to join Trial Advocacy. It is my hope to join a DA’s office somewhere in California, at some time after graduation and bar passage, and learning to try an entire criminal case, from start to finish via Trial Advocacy seemed the best route for me to further my future.

1. What is your fondest memory about moot court?

The lasting friendships that were built between my fellow mooters, my coaches, and my professor, Dr. Ringel.

1. What was the best thing about moot court?

Learning to articulate the law. Learning to clearly and succinctly make an argument. And, okay, all of the traveling and fun that comes along with it. Let’s be honest, celebrating a tournament win with your friends and your co-counsel, in a foreign town, thousands of miles away from home is a good time.

1. What was the worst thing about moot court?

Practices can be long and it will carve into your freedom outside of school. I recommend sucking it up and getting used to it.

1. What do you miss about moot court?

Literally, everything; even those long practices. Moot Court was the best thing that I did in undergrad. It was a very special time in my life. I wouldn’t trade it for anything.

1. What tournaments did you compete in and what were they like?

I competed in many. A few in Long Beach, one in Colorado at the Air Force Academy, one in Tampa Bay, two Upper Midwestern Regional’s in Iowa, a Nationals tournament in Arizona, a Nationals tournament in Miami… probably a few more that I’m forgetting.

1. What advice would you give future mooters?

To take it all in, listen to Dr. Ringel, listen to your coaches, learn from your fellow mooters, read the cases thoroughly and find the helpful pieces of law to advance your arguments, spend time with the problem, and have fun doing it. Work hard and strive to win, because the tools will be there for you to win.

1. Who was the BEST mooter you ever saw?

I can’t really say BEST because I was fortunate to see some amazing mooters. Krist Biakanja was the most creative mooter I’ve ever seen, and that includes those I’ve seen in Law School. Ashley Hall was the clearest and most articulate mooter that I’ve probably ever seen. Kyle Maury was the most prepared mooter that I’ve ever seen. I could go on and on with all of my fellow teammates. Everyone brought something great to the table, and we all helped each other; we fed off of each other, which led to each of us getting better as a group, and as individuals.

1. Why should someone consider moot court?

Because it will be among the best things that will ever choose to do for yourself. It will make you smarter and sharper. It will make you a better thinker. It will stand out as an absolute highlight of your undergrad years. Do it.