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Robinson+Cole Boston Lawyers Coach Students on Constitutional Procedure

*Middle school students learn to “Stand Up for Your Rights” through Discovering Justice program*

BOSTON, MA (June 5, 2015) – Boston inner-city middle school students went to court to argue a hypothetical First Amendment case in which a student sues his school district after he is suspended for wearing a shirt with a bull’s eye logo and the words “Fight the Power.” The students learned to exercise their First Amendment rights with coaching from Robinson+Cole lawyers. This was the fourth consecutive year that lawyers from the Boston office of Robinson+Cole taught Discovering Justice’s “Stand Up for Your Rights” program.

*Pictured are the happy students after their oral arguments with their coaches, teachers, and Supreme Judicial Court Justice Robert Cordy, as well as two lawyers who acted as additional advisory judges.*
Over 12 weeks, Kendra L. Berardi, Jonathan R. Hausner, Clive D. Martin, and Kristopher I. Moore, with Gregory Boucher of the firm Saul Ewing LLP, coached 15 eighth-grade students from the Roxbury Prep Charter School about the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and the basic elements of legal procedure and oral argument. The students studied and argued their hypothetical First Amendment case, and the program culminated on the evening of May 13, 2015, when students from a number of inner-city schools were sworn in as advocates in the “Mock Bar of Massachusetts” at the federal courthouse. The students then delivered their arguments—half for the school district and half for the student—to a panel that included Supreme Judicial Court Justice Robert Cordy. The Roxbury Prep appellate lawyers acquitted themselves extremely well and made their coaches proud.

Discovering Justice is a Boston-based independent nonprofit organization that prepares young people to value the justice system, realize the power of their own voices, and embrace civic responsibility by connecting classrooms and courtrooms.

**About Robinson+Cole**

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