

PLAINTIFF' S VERDICT

VERMONT SUPERIOR COURT
RUTLAND CIVIL DIVISION
MOCK TRIAL

In this cause, the jury, on their oath, says the Plaintiff met her burden of proof on her claim and is awarded damages in the amount of _____



_____ Foreperson

DEFENDANT' S VERDICT

VERMONT SUPERIOR COURT
RUTLAND CIVIL DIVISION
MOCK TRIAL

In this cause, the jury, on their oath, says the Plaintiff did not meet her burden of proof on her claim for eviction and find for the defendant



_____ Foreperson

The
VERMONT SUPERIOR COURT
RUTLAND CIVIL DIVISION
and the
RUTLAND COUNTY BAR
ASSOCIATION
Present
Barbie
v.
Ken



LAW DAY 2024
MOCK TRIAL

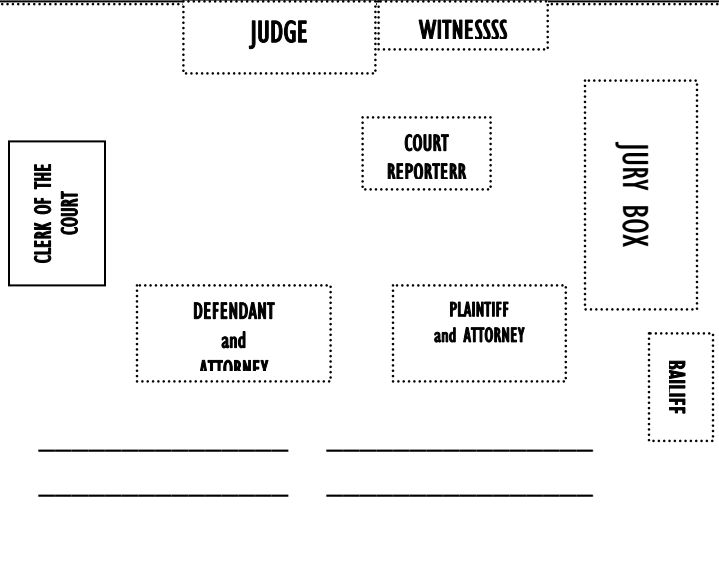
Thursday, May 2, 2024

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Barbie v. Ken

Presiding Judge Hon. Susan McManus
 Barbie (Plaintiff)..... Zanna Bliss, Esq.
 Ken (Defendant) Nikolaus Houghton, Esq.
 President Barbie..... Phillisa Jones Prescott, Esq.
 Gloria Toni Dutil, Esq.
 Weird Barbie..... Daron Raleigh, Esq.
 Plaintiff’s Counsel..... Ian Sullivan, Esq.
 Defendant’s Counsel..... Hon. Alexander Burke

COURTROOM SCENE



*We are pleased to welcome
 the Students and Faculty of*

- Christ the King School
- Fair Haven Grade School
- Killington Elementary School
- Poultney Elementary School
- Proctor Elementary School
- Rutland Intermediate School
- Rutland Town School
- Tinmouth Mountain School

GLOSSARY OF LEGAL TERMS

Judge: The person who is in charge of the Court. He or she makes sure that the trial is fair and orderly. The Judge sees that both sides of the case have a fair chance to present their arguments. Then the Judge tells the Jury the principles of law in the case.

Jury: The people on the Jury listen carefully to the statements of the witnesses. The Jurors think about the facts a witness tells to see if they make sense and if they agree with what other witnesses say. Each Juror also listens to the opening statements and closing arguments of the lawyers. At the end of the trial, the Jury makes a decision for the case.

Plaintiff: A person starting a lawsuit; a party that complains.

Defendant: A person against whom a lawsuit is brought; a person who is being sued.

Plaintiff’s Attorney: This lawyer brings the plaintiff’s case before the Court and Jury. He or she tries to show evidence to persuade the Jury that their verdict should be in favor of the plaintiff.

Defendant’s Attorney: This lawyer brings the defendant’s case before the Court and Jury. He or she tries to show that there is not enough evidence to prove the plaintiff’s case. This may be done by persuading the Jury that the witnesses for the plaintiff were not dependable. The defense attorney may also try to show that the evidence was not based on fact or that the witnesses contradicted each other.

Witness: Each witness explains to the Court and Jury what he or she believes to be the facts of the case; one who testifies (tells) as to what he or she has seen, heard, or otherwise observed (seen).

Clerk of the Court: The Clerk opens the trial and swears in the Jury.

Court Recorder: The Recorder takes notes to record the main points of the trial. This record can be used to find out what was said earlier in the trial. It can be used for talking about what happened after the trial is over.

Bailiff: The Bailiff keeps order in the Court. He or she sees that the Jurors are not interrupted while they are deciding the verdict. The Bailiff may also deliver any written messages during the trial.

Testimony: Evidence given by a witness under oath.

Evidence: Documents or objects that are relevant to the case.

Pleadings: Written statements of each of the party’s contentions (case).

Opening Statements: An introduction by each attorney as to what they intend to prove during the trial.

Irrelevant: Evidence not relating or applicable to the matter in issue. Evidence having nothing to do with the case.

Objection: Calling the Court’s attention to improper evidence or procedure.

Objection Sustained: The Judge upholds an objection.

Objection Overruled: The Judge denies an objection.

Cross-Examination: The questioning of a witness by an attorney other than the one who called that witness to testify.

Contempt of Court: An act calculated to embarrass, hinder or obstruct a Court in the administration of justice.

Verdict: The formal decision made by the Jury. The people on the Jury must all agree on the decision.

Hearsay: Evidence not based on the personal knowledge of the witness.