**LEGAL RESEARCH TEAMS ACTIVITY**

**Point Value - 100 pts**

* Case 6 - The Jeffrey MacDonald Murder
* Case 7 - The Sodder House Mystery
* Case 8 – Casey Anthony Trial
* Case 9 – The Menendez Brothers
* Case 10 – The Trial of Amanda Knox
* Case 11 – The Michael Peterson Trial

Case Assigned:

* Case 1 - Adnan Syed: A High School Murder
* Case 2 - O.J. Simpson Murder Trial
* Case 3 - The Case of Steven Avery
* Case 4 - The Jinx: Robert Durst Case
* Case 5 - The Death of JonBenet Ramsey

**Roles**:

* Lead Detective - In charge of leading group discussions, presenting information to the class, assigning evidence to be evaluated, and narrowing down conclusions of the group.
* Writer - Responsible for drafting and finalizing main briefing that will be presented to the class.
* Researcher - Gathering credible sources, evaluating evidence, presenting facts/evidence to the group, distributing links/sources to the group.
* Lead Assistant - Can branch off with researchers, in charge of group if detective is absent, responsible for creating suspect chart.

**Tasks**:

* **Research**: Independently find ***5 sources*** that related and present information on the case. This can be documentary episodes, podcasts, case files, rulings, and news articles. Two of your sources must be in print from a reputable source. One of your sources must be from the actual case. List these sources on your chart and explain their importance to your case.
  + **Formatted correctly**
  + **Paragraph (6 sentences) description of how the sources was used and what info that source provided**

* **Suspect Chart** - **(NOT JUST A POSTER!!!)** - Create a chart that shows the victim(s), suspects, and people involved. You do not need to use pictures but this does need to appear neat and thorough.



* **Presentation**: Using Keynote/Google Slides/PowerPoint/Emaze.com (etc….) you will need to include the following:
* Name of the Case
* Year of crime + conviction/closing date
* Major Evidence: Please state if this was used in the case and how it impacted the case. You must also include one piece of missing evidence.
* Ruling: Outcome of this case?
* Research Team Opinion: What is the overall conclusion of your research team? How would each of your group members voted in a jury situation?
* Predictions: Will we here about this case in the future? If so, how?
* **Documentary Trailer**:
  + 2-4 minutes
  + Provides a narration of the case
  + Professional sounding audio and video
  + Should provide a summary of the case
  + Should leave the viewer questioning the outcome of the case

**Checklist**

**Research (25)**

\_\_\_5 sources (2 in print form) (15)

\_\_\_Formatted correctly (5)

\_\_\_A paragraph for each source describing how it was used and its importance (5)

**Suspect Chart (25)**

\_\_\_Shows the victim, criminal, and possible suspects of the case (10)

\_\_\_Uses lines, connections between the individuals (5)

\_\_\_Neat and thorough (5)

**Documentary Trailer (25)**

\_\_\_2-4 minutes (5)

\_\_\_Narration (5)

\_\_\_Provides a summary (5)

\_\_\_Professional looking and sounding (5)

\_\_\_Entertainment Value (5)

**Presenation (25)**

\_\_\_Uses presentation software (10)

\_\_\_Includes required information found above (10)

\_\_\_Presenters DO NOT read off the slides. Explain the information in a confident manner (5)

**Legal Research Project Source Page**

**Group Members –**

**Sources**

Last, First M. *Book.* City: Publisher, Year Published. Print.

*Paragraph description of source which needs to be at least four sentences.*

James, Henry. *The Ambassadors.* Rockville: Serenity, 2009. Print.

*Paragraph description of source which needs to be at least four sentences.*

Last, First M. *Book.* City: Publisher, Year Published. *Website Title.* Web. Day Month Year Accessed.

*Paragraph description of source which needs to be at least four sentences.*

James, Henry. *The Ambassadors.* Rockville: Serenity, 2009. Google books. Web. 16 Mar. 2010

http://books.google.com

*Paragraph description of source which needs to be at least* ***six*** *sentences.*