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U.S. Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito, "75" was one of three distinguished judges presiding over the Spring 2007 Finals of Yale Law School's Morris Tyler Moot Court of Appeals Monday, May 7, in the Levinson Auditorium. U.S. Court of Appeals Judges Rosemary Barkett (11th Cir.) and Rosemary S. Podol (2nd Cir.) joined Alito in hearing an impressive panel of Law School students argue Rahmawi v. United States. Justice Alito said the High Court had previously declined to hear:

[大标题] Moot Court Funds

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This case addressed two questions:

1.Whether the Government may prosecute an individual for donating money to or soliciting donations for an organization designated as a "foreign terrorist organization" while prohibiting the defendant from challenging that designation?

2. Are the procedures governing the Secretary of State's designation of an organization as a "foreign terrorist organization" sufficient to protect the First Amendment rights of individuals prosecuted for donating money to or soliciting donations from that organization?

Arguing for the petitioner, Roya Rahmawi, were Anna Marasco Dieste '08 and Krishnan Vigurapillai '08. Representing the respondent, the United States of America, were Bryan Calfee '08 and Jon Donahue '08.

Each oralist had 17 minutes to present his or her case and answer some tough questions from the judges. After hearing the arguments, the judges took a brief recess to deliberate, then returned to the "courtroom" with their decision.

"We were most impressed by the quality of the oral arguments heard this afternoon," Alito began, adding, "this is a very hard case."

For "some difference in performance," the two judges awarded the Peter Birman Prize for best overall argument to the Petitioners, Anna Marasco Dieste and Krishnan Vigurapillai. They declined the Thomas Arnold Prize for best oralist to be a tie between Dieste and Vigurapillai.

"I thought the judges asked good questions," said Justice Samuel Alito. "And Justice Alito was just as I thought he'd be—measured, thoughtful and patient, but also challenging."