

# **Trial of President Trump**

Official Delegate Guide for United States Congress



**John Jay High School Model United Nations Conference V**

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Delegate Guide</b>	<b>3</b>
A Letter from your Chairs	3
Introduction	5
Timeline	6
How the Committee Will Work	9
Positions	11
Disclaimer and Expectations	13
Disclaimer and Expectations	14
Questions	15
<b>General Information</b>	<b>16</b>
Position Papers	16



# Delegate Guide

## A LETTER FROM YOUR CHAIRS

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Dear Delegates,

My name is Elyse Sherr and I am ecstatic about chairing this Food Network Committee. I know this committee sounds very different from most committees at Model UN conferences and it may seem a bit "out there." However, with that being said I hope the background guide will help clear up almost all if not all of your questions.

If you have any other questions that are not addressed feel free to send me an email and I should answer promptly! This is my fourth year in our Model United Nations club at John Jay High School and as a Senior it will be the second year in which I have chaired a conference. Besides MUN, I compete with our science Olympiad team and I am on our Campus congress, and president of the American Red Cross chapter at John Jay high school. . My favorite pastimes would be watching either Parks and Rec or The Office and eating candy (soft jolly ranchers and strawberry licorice are my favorites.) One of my favorite things about JJMUNC is that it is a relatively smaller conference and allows for all delegates to share their voices and participate in solutions to real-world, or made up issues.



As many of you know seniors will be applying to colleges very soon (including myself). Feel free to come chat with me about where you are interested in or anything colleges related I would love to learn more about you!

In this committee all delegates must work together and communicate and cooperate effectively in order to have an exciting and interesting committee. I am confident in your abilities such as public speaking, etiquette and creativeness that will help you greatly. I can't wait to meet all of you and have a great time at JJMUNC IV. Background guides will be required for the House and Senate portion of the committee.

Best of Luck!

Elyse Sherr ([esherr19@klschools.org](mailto:esherr19@klschools.org))



## INTRODUCTION

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The effort to impeach a president is an interesting and complex one. Rumours of efforts to impeach Donald Trump have mostly risen out of alleged collaboration with Russia. However, the first formal attempt to impeach the current President started with democrat Representatives Al Green and Brad Sherman. Many attempts to impeach the president have been made on a variety of charges on topics including; collaboration with Russia, foreign business, obstruction of justice, and his morals. Polls taken at the end of 2017 reveal that more than 40 percent of Americans wanted to impeach Donald Trump. However, with the Republican control of both the House of Representatives and the Senate, it will be difficult to do. A December 2017 resolution, for example, to impeach Donald Trump failed by a 58-364 margin. This resolution will be discussed further later in this guide. It is clear that there is public support for drafting articles of impeachment. That is why this committee was created. Delegates will need to be creative and work together through party lines. Negotiations, and secret deals will be the only way to get any articles of impeachment passes through the House. It will be impossible to be successful in this committee if you are working alone.



## TIMELINE

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### May 2017

Originating with the termination of James Comey, Democratic members of Congress spoke about an "impeachment clock" for Trump. This could lead to articles of impeachment on obstruction of justice and criminal malfeasance if proof were discovered. Senator Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut stated, "It may well produce another United States v. Nixon on a subpoena that went to United States Supreme Court. It may well produce impeachment proceedings, although we're very far from that possibility." Maxine Waters, member of the House, suggested that there was a possibility for impeachment when Donald Trump disclose classified information to Russia. Two Republican Representatives, Justin Amash (R-MI) and Carlos Curbelo (R-FL), have called for impeachment on the grounds that obstruction of justice charges against Trump were proven true.

Representative Green called for impeachment in the house on May 17th and House Oversight Committee Chairman Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) announced that he was issuing subpoenas on the memo that James Comey wrote.

Congressman Luis Gutierrez states that, "It is the Judiciary Committee in the House where impeachment begins" The proceeding for impeachment began with two representatives suggesting such and they are Pramila Jayapal and Al Green] On May 24 Green was drafting articles of impeachment and would submit them. In the House, democrats are calling for bipartisanship in this process.

### June 2017

In June Congressman Brad Sherman began drafted articles articles of impeachment against President Trump, and showed them on June 12. Al Green

stated: "In the spirit of keeping the republic, I have concluded that the president has obstructed justice and in so doing, the remedy for obstruction of justice is impeachment. The president will not be indicted while he is in office, and while there is some merit in talking about the judicial process, the impeachment process is the one that will bring him before the bar of justice." Preet Bharara said in a June 11 interview that "there's absolutely evidence to begin a case" regarding obstruction of justice by Trump."

On June 14, The Washington Post reported that Trump was being investigated by Special Counsel Robert Mueller for possible obstruction of justice relating to his actions in regard to the investigation into Russia.

On July 12, Congressman Sherman formally introduced Article of Impeachment (H.Res. 438) on the grounds of obstructing and impeding the investigation of justice, regarding the investigation of Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election.

### **August 2017**

Representative Steve Cohen Announced that he would introduce articles of impeachment because Trump had "failed the presidential test of moral leadership." This was in reference to his comments made about Charlottesville. Al Green's resolution was withdrawn.

### **November 2017**

Six democrats introduced H.Res. 621 with five articles of impeachment on November 15th. The five accusations were "obstruction of justice," "violation of the foreign emoluments clause," "violation of the domestic emoluments clause," "undermining the independence of the federal judiciary" and "undermining the freedom of the press."

"A survey showed nearly 40% of American citizens was in favour of impeachment (up from 30% in February), with almost 75% of Democrats and 7% of Republicans supporting possible impeachment, although Trump's approval rating among Republicans fell from 91% in June to 79% in November." (Le Miere, Jason (November 15, 2017). "Trump impeachment articles introduced by six Democrats calling for hearings to begin immediately".)

### **December 2017**

On December 6, a second draft of articles of impeachment, H.Res. 646, was presented by Representative Al Green, Democrat of Texas. The two reasons for impeachment: "Associating the Presidency with White Nationalism, Neo-Nazism and Hatred" and "Inciting Hatred and Hostility." House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy moved to table the resolution which was agreed 364-58.

Green's effort did not receive the support of Democratic leadership. House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi and Minority Whip Steny Hoyer issued a statement saying that "[legitimate questions have been raised about [Trump's] fitness to lead this nation," but that "[now is not the time to consider articles of impeachment] given investigations by committees.

### **January 2018**

On January 19, 2018, Green brought up the resolution a second time. On this attempt his motion was defeated by a vote of 355-66.



## HOW THE COMMITTEE WILL WORK

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The first half of the committee will have delegates as the House of Representatives. Some delegates will be drafting articles of impeachment as their resolution citing charges, reason and proof. Other delegates will be drafting resolutions for not impeaching Donald Trump, citing reasons and evidence. The committee time will be spent having discussions and debate on different allegations against Trump and analyzing their worthiness of impeachment. I urge delegates to be creative with this and not stick with just what has been done in the past. I also strongly encourage delegates to try and collaborate and create a bipartisan resolution that gets passed.

A simple majority is needed to pass articles of impeachment in the House of Representatives. For conviction in the Senate, a two-thirds majority is needed in the Senate. So far, 12 Republican Senators have indicated that they would like to see a change regarding Trump's presidency. If articles of impeachment would be supported by all 48 Democratic Senators, 8 more Republican Senators the president would be removed.

If the articles of impeachment do get passed then the second half of the committee will commence. This will be a new set of positions in the senate to determine whether or not Donald Trump will get impeached. This will be difficult, but not impossible to accomplish. Delegates should study how the senate decides on whether or not to further articles of impeachment and be ready for this new set of positions.

If the House of Representatives decide that the articles of impeachment are not appropriate to pass at this time then the committee will move in an alternate direction

for the rest of the committee. This will require that the positions in the House of Representatives stay the same but the members will discuss a different Donald Trump related topic that will be revealed that day. Be prepared!



## POSITIONS

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House of Representatives (Leaders)

### **Republican Paul D. Ryan**

Elected by the House of Representatives, the Speaker is leader of the House and fulfills the following tasks: is the administrative head of the House, leader of the majority party in the House, and an elected member of the House. The Speaker of the House is second in line to succeed the President, only after the Vice President.

### **Republican Kevin McCarthy**

Represents Republicans in the House of Representatives as the majority leader

### **Republican Steve Scalise**

Assists leadership in managing party's legislative program as the majority whip

### **Republican Cathy McMorris Rodgers**

Republican Conference Chairman: Organizer of all Republican Party members in the House.

### **Republican Luke Messer**

Republican Policy Committee Chairman: Heads Conference forum for policy

### **Democrat Nancy Pelosi**

Democratic Leader

**Democrat Steny Hoyer**

Democratic Whip- helps manage the democratic legislative program

**Democrat James Clyburn**

Assistant Democratic Leader

**Democrat Joseph Crowley**

Democratic Caucus Chairman

Senate Leaders

**Majority Leader Mitch McConnell**

**Majority Whip John Cornyn**

**Minority Leader Chuck Schumer**

**Minority Whip Dick Durbin**



## DISCLAIMER AND EXPECTATIONS

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This committee is in no way intended to exclude or favor one political party or the other. Personal political beliefs set aside, this committee requires delegates to act in the best interest of an actual house members or senate member. Regardless of party, all delegates should feel comfortable expressing the views of their representative. If that is ever not the case I urge that you talk to me and voice your concern and I will correct it. I think that this committee is an interesting topic but I do understand that it is controversial. I would love to keep this committee as light-hearted as possible and make sure that the environment is welcoming and safe.

I will also be allowing computers to be used outside the committee room to write resolutions and may make exceptions for a few delegates to use computers in the committee room due to time restraints as only a one-day committee.

I expect for all delegates to be respectful of others opinions and ideas. I expect for all delegates to be dressed appropriately in Western Business Attire. Lastly, I expect for all delegates to have some fun!



## DISCLAIMER AND EXPECTATIONS

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I will be giving awards based on the following criteria. Keep in mind that delegates that do not submit position papers by the due date will be eligible for awards and John Jay High School students are ineligible for receiving awards as well.

**Creativity**- Being creative in speeches, and ideas is very important for a delegate and is one of the top criteria for award consideration

**Activity**- I hope to see that the delegates are active. Meaning that they want to participate and are raising their placards frequently, passing notes, and active throughout the committee

**Leadership**- Delegates who win awards are often those that help bring each other up and work together with others. I love to see delegates who balance being a leader and who cooperating with others.

**Cooperation**- Super important one! Delegates need to work together in order to pass resolutions and make blocs

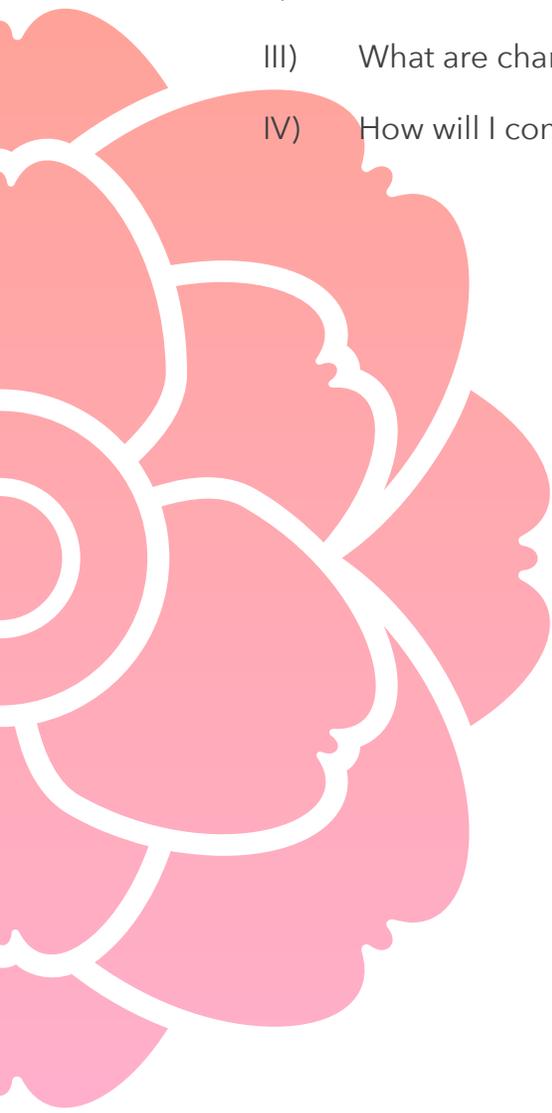
Additionally, after this committee if you would like to hear some feedback on your performance at JJMUNC feel free to reach out to your chairs by email or in person after the committee. If you would like to know what you could do better in the future, or what you have already been doing well we would love to tell you from our perspective what you are doing right as a delegate.



## QUESTIONS

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- I) How does Trump being impeached impact me?
- II) How would I benefit or be harmed by impeached Trump?
- III) What are charges used to impeach leaders in the past?
- IV) How will I convince people of other parties to vote with me and my idea?



# General Information

## POSITION PAPERS

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Position papers should address the majority or all of the questions laid out in the “Questions” section of this packet in a clear and succinct multi-paragraph essay that has an introduction, a thesis, and a conclusion.

The format of each position paper is up to each individual delegate’s discretion—we welcome you to surprise us—so long as it seems appropriate for a formal position paper.

The only thing that we do ask, however, is that position papers do not exceed more than two pages (a double sided sheet of paper, traditionally known as a “leaf,” **does** count as two pages).

Delegates should incorporate information both from the delegate guide and their own research into their position papers. The sources for this information should be cited in a bibliography with MLA citations. Please note that the bibliography **does not** count towards the two page total limit for the position paper.

Finally, please remember to email your position paper in PDF format to your chairs by midnight on Thursday, November 15, 2018.

