

LAW DAY 2022

*Toward a More Perfect Union:
The Constitution in Times of Change*

2022 LAW DAY

STATE BAR of TEXAS

Law Student Division

ESSAY CONTEST

Purpose

The Law Student Division Essay Contest is an annual contest that provides an opportunity to help students and the public better understand the justice system. Moreover, it offers us the ability to reflect on this nation's legal heritage.

2022 LAW DAY THEME

Toward a More Perfect Union: The Constitution in Times of Change

"We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union..." are the opening words of the U.S. Constitution. At 4,400 words and signed in 1787, it is one of the shortest and oldest written constitutions in the world.

The Constitution is a dynamic document, as it not only outlines a blueprint for government, but also delegates power, articulates rights, and offers mechanisms for change. It is neither perfect, nor exhaustive, as our nation's history makes clear. Legislation, court rulings, amendments, lawyers, and "we the people" have built upon those original words across generations to attempt to make the "more perfect Union" more real. That effort continues today, as contemporary leaders and everyday citizens raise their voices as loud as ever to fulfill the promise of the Constitution. Defining and refining those words of the Constitution might be our oldest national tradition, and how each of us works—together—toward a more perfect Union.

All entries should reflect the student's interpretation of the 2022 Law Day theme by responding to the following prompt: *What role does the Constitution play in times of change?*

Deadline

Electronically submit your completed entry form and your typed essay (12-point font, double-spaced) to Bree Trevino at btrevino@texasbar.com. All 2022 Law Student Division Essays and entry forms must be received **by 5:00 p.m. Friday, April 29.**

Award Guidelines

Two award recipients will be chosen from all of the Law Student Division applicants (Texas and out-of-state Law Student Division members only may apply). Both award recipients will receive \$1,000. All decisions will be final.

Judging Criteria

The judges will use the following criteria when evaluating each essay:

Interpretation of the Theme	50%
Writing Style	20%
Clarity	10%
Factual Accuracy	10%
Grammatical Mechanics	10%
TOTAL	100%

Eligibility Rules

- ★ The Essay Contest is for State Bar of Texas Law Student Division members only.
- ★ The essay must be written in response to the theme.
- ★ One Law Student Division Essay entry per student will be accepted.
- ★ The essay must be no longer than 5 typewritten, double-spaced pages in 12 point font.
- ★ The submitted work must be the student's original work.
- ★ The essay must be submitted with the completed entry form on the back of this application.



STATE BAR OF TEXAS LAW STUDENT DIVISION
2022 Essay Contest Entry Form
(Please print)

Name Law Student Division Member #

Address

City State Zip

Telephone

Email

Law School

Essay Title

Applicant Signature Date

**MUST BE
RECEIVED NO
LATER THAN
FRIDAY, APRIL 29
AT 5:00 P.M.**

Please send entry form and essay to:
Bree Trevino
Law Student Division
btrevino@texasbar.com
www.texasbar.com/lawstudentdivision