

LAW DAY

2023

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.

2023 LAW DAY THEME
*CORNERSTONES OF DEMOCRACY: CIVICS,
CIVILITY, AND COLLABORATION*

In recent years, tensions in our democratic system have revealed deep divisions in American society. These divisions are aggravated by incivility in public discourse and insufficient understanding among many people about the Constitution and the way American government works. Together, however, we can collaborate to overcome our differences, resolve our disputes, and preserve our democracy and republic. To that end, members of the legal profession can lead the way in promoting civics, civility, and collaboration—the cornerstones of our democracy.

All entries should reflect the student's interpretation of the 2023 Law Day theme by responding to the following prompt: *Explain or depict how pursuing civics, civility, and collaboration could help our society improve public discourse and inspire greater understanding of the Constitution and American government.*

Deadline

Electronically submit your completed entry form and your typed essay (12 point font, double-spaced) to Bree Trevino at btrevino@texasbar.com. All 2023 Law Student Division Essays and entry forms must be received by **5:00 p.m. Friday, April 21.**

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.

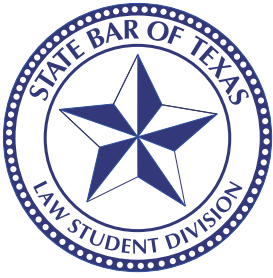
Judging Criteria

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%
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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
2023 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 21 AT
5:00 P.M.**

Please send entry form and essay to:

Bree Trevino

Law Student Division

btrevino@texasbar.com

texasbar.com/lawstudentdivision