

A stylized graphic of the American flag, featuring a blue field with white stars in the upper left corner and red and white stripes flowing across the rest of the page. The flag is semi-transparent, allowing the text to be seen through it.

LAW DAY 2019 ESSAY CONTEST (For 6th – 8th Grade Students)

Write an essay of no more than
500 words that covers the topic:
“Free Speech, Free Press, Free Society”

Prizes:

1st Place: Plaque presented by Judge from San Bernardino Superior Court

2nd Place: Plaque

3rd – 5th Place: Honorable Mention

Deadline: Essays must be emailed in word format to the San Bernardino Superior Court’s Judicial Fellow at Blee@sb-court.org or mailed using the mailing instructions found on the contest rules by **April 15, 2019**

Details: The San Bernardino Superior Court is proud to invite **San Bernardino County students from grades 6-8** to participate in the Law Day 2018 Essay Contest. Winners will be selected based on creativity and quality. For more details, see the contest rules.

SAN BERNARDINO SUPERIOR COURT LAW DAY ESSAY CONTEST

“Free Speech, Free Press, Free Society”

OFFICIAL 2019 CONTEST RULES

Qualified Participants:

The Law Day Contest is open to students attending a public or private school, or being home schooled, within the San Bernardino County and in **grades 6-8** or the equivalent.

Essay Theme: Separation of Powers

Write an essay of no more than 500 words that covers the topic:

Introduction: The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America states:
“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

Topics: Why did our Founding Fathers believe free speech and free press were important? Do you think there should be any limit(s) on your constitutional right to speak? How might our lives be different today if the Constitution did not include these rights?

Steps to Enter:

1. Read and agree to the contest rules.
2. Write the essay.
3. Email the essay to BLee@sb-court.org or mail the essay using the mailing instructions included below

Contest Deadline:

Contest entries will be accepted beginning **February 18, 2019**. To be eligible for prizes, all entries must be uploaded or postmarked by **April 15, 2019**.

Contest Prizes:

Prizes will be awarded for each division as follows:

1st Place and Overall Winner: Inscribed plaque presented to student by a Judge from the San Bernardino Superior Court

2nd Place: Inscribed plaque

3rd to 5th Place: Honorable Mentions

Selection of winners and runners-up will be based on originality, creativity, adherence to the theme, and overall quality. With the permission of the winning students, their essays may be reproduced in local papers and may be used to promote Law Day 2020!

Essay Specifications:

Essays must be a maximum of 500 words.

Essays must be submitted in **PDF or word format**.

All essays must be submitted in Times New Roman, 12 point font.

Essays may not incorporate any copyrighted characters (i.e. comics and/or television characters), photographs, and magazine or newspaper illustrations.

Essays must be original, correct in safety concepts, and the exclusive work of the student entering the contest in idea, design, and execution.

Submissions will not be accepted or eligible if they include- in the sole judgment of the committee- any content that contains or appears to contain:

1. Profane, obscene, or inappropriate material
2. Inappropriate language
3. Any derogatory characterization of any person or group based on age, race, color, gender, gender identity, citizenship, creed, national origin, physical appearance, political affiliation, union membership, or other unethical or lawful factors
4. Any actual or apparent copying or other infringement of another's intellectual property rights

There must be a cover page to each submitted essay which includes the student's name, grade, age, teacher's name, school name, and school address. An example of necessary information is included at the end of the contest rules.

All expenses involved in preparing and submitting an entry are the entrant's responsibility.

Contest Infrastructure:

The San Bernardino Superior Court Essay Contest is sponsored by the San Bernardino Superior Court. The San Bernardino Superior Court Judicial Outreach Committee will select one winner and four runners-up from among the eligible entries that, in the sole discretion of the committee, meet the minimum quality standards and best reflect the theme. Winners will be announced on or about **May 1, 2019**.

All essays and related intellectual property rights become the property of the San Bernardino Superior Court upon receipt and are not returned to the author, his/her parents/legal guardians, instructor/teacher, school, state, or any other person(s) claiming a right, title, or other interest in the essay.

Submission Instructions:

Essays may be emailed to: BLee@sb-court.org or mailed to San Bernardino Justice Center: c/o Brian Lee (11th floor) 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino 92415

2019 SAN BERNARDINO SUPERIOR COURT LAW DAY ESSAY CONTEST

Please complete and attach this form to the essay submission in accordance with specifications noted in the contest rules.

PRINT CLEARLY

Student Name _____

Grade _____ Age _____

School _____

School Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Teacher's Name _____

Teacher's Email _____

Student's Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____